

RECEIVED TO UNLIMITED  
CIRCULATION

SERVICE REPORT

SUBJECT ORGANIZATION OF THE GENDARMERIE---ARGENTINA

From ARGENTINA

No. 3231

Date November 7 19 23

Repeating to No. 2/2001-110

Date January 24 23  
June 6 1933

BILL TO CREATE AND ORGANISE A NATIONAL GENDARMERIE.

There follows a complete translation of the bill presented to the Chamber of Deputies by the Executive Power on September 27, 1923 providing for the creation and organization of a national gendarmerie.

"LAW:

section 1---Chapter 1

"Art.1: The National Gendarmerie is created with the character of a militarized federal police, without it being considered as a component part of the national army of which it is independent, except in cases expressly provided for in this law.

"Art.2: As a body of federal police its exclusive mission is:

- a) To maintain order and public security.
- b) To insure the compliance of the laws of the Nation and other legal resolutions.

"Art.3: Its functions are exercised:

- a) In all places subject to federal jurisdiction with the exception of those submitted to military jurisdiction.
- b) In any part of the nation, always when it is required to assist the federal authorities in the exercise of their functions.

"Art.4: It will depend on the Ministry of the Interior except in those cases expressly pointed out in this law.

"Art.5: The Executive is empowered to place under the direct and exclusive dependency of the Ministry of War, the Gendarmerie, or parts of same, in the following cases:

- a) State of siege
- b) Exigencies of National defense
- c) Mobilization of the Army
- d) When necessary for the maintenance of internal order.

"Art.6: In case of national war, the fractions of the National Gendarmerie which are with the armies in the field or in the declared war zones, shall proceed in accord with what the code of military justice prescribes for 'police commissaries', and shall be considered as an integral part of the reserve of the permanent army.

"Art.7: Regarding the instruction of its personnel, it will

be subject to the laws, orders and other regulations of the Army, as also those of the Executive Power prescribed for its special service.

"Art.8: In addition to discipline, the National Gendarmerie will be subject to the army regulations, and in consequence, its personnel will be included in what is prescribed for soldiers in the laws and regulations pertaining to discipline. To this end the National Gendarmerie shall depend on the Ministry of War.

"Art.9: The offenses and crimes committed by civilians against the personnel of the Gendarmerie in the exercise of its functions, shall be considered as committed against the police, except in cases where the application of the Code of Military Justice applies.

"Art.10: The Ministry of War shall have charge of the inspection on the National Gendarmerie relative to military instruction, and insofar as the conservation of armament and equipment is concerned.

"Art.11: The Executive Power is authorized to incorporate in the National Gendarmerie, the personnel of maritime police or part of the same. In this case the Ministry of Marine shall have a similar intervention to that conceded by Art.10 to the Ministry of War.

"Art.12: No authority will employ either separately or collectively the personnel of the National Gendarmerie on duties foreign to those established by this law, to those of its special service, and to those of internal regime of the distinct groups in which it may be divided."

## CHAPTER II.

### Organization.

"Art.13: The National Gendarmerie shall be organized into squadrons or into companies, or into both at the same time, as determined by the Executive Power. These units shall be grouped for the purposes of administration, control and command, into half regiments or regiments, according to their needs.

The command of all the forces of the National Gendarmerie shall be exercised by the General Direction of Gendarmerie in charge of a Colonel of the permanent army, whose services shall be considered as services in the Army.

"Art.14: The organization and internal regimen of these units shall be identical to the corresponding one in the permanent army, except in strength and those modifications in detail imposed by the nature of its special services.

"Art.15: The Executive Power shall regulate the service of gendarmes in such a way that outside of populated places they shall always function in twos, and also it must be established definitely when individual action is authorized.

"Art.16: Half regiments and regiments are not tactical units, and their fusion into squadrons, at given places, shall only take place in exceptionally grave cases.

"Art.17: As a minimum there shall be the following commands and units of the National Gendarmerie.

[illegible]

The administration inspections shall be made by the personnel of the Ministry of War, to other with the technical personnel of the Ministry of the Interior."

## Chapter 1.

Personnel. .

"Art.19: The personnel of the National Gendarmerie has no military status, except in the case provided for in Art.8 of the present law. Under the e circumstances their services are considered as 'temporary services' in war in the reserve of the permanent army, in conformity with the regulations of the Personnel Law of the Army, but they always remain in the National Gendarmerie, without in any case, being able to pass to other units of the Army.

"Art. 30: In the National Gendarmerie there will be the maximum number of officers determined below:

- 3-

SECRET  
1917

- 1 Pharmacist, ----- 3rd class, with the rank of endarmerie assistant.
- 1 veterinarian ----- 3rd class, with the rank of endarmerie 3rd class.
- 7 veterinarians ----- 3rd class, with the rank of endarmerie assistant.

"Art.21: The personnel of troops of the National Gendarmerie is constituted by the following non-commissioned officers and endarmees:

28	assistants, 1st class, endarmees.
53	" " " " " "
100	sub-assistants, 1st class, endarmees
130	" " " " " "
180	" " " " " "
180	" " " " " " "(30 horsebackers)

- 2 nurses, 1st class gendarmerie, with rank of sub-assistant, 1st class.
- 5 nurses, 2nd class gendarmerie, with rank of sub-assistant, 2nd class.
- 14 nurses, 3rd class gendarmerie, with rank of sub-assistant, 3rd class.
- 2 storekeepers, 1st class gendarmerie, with rank of sub-assistant, 3rd class.
- 2 storekeepers, 1st class gendarmerie, with rank of sub-assistant, 1st class.
- 20 storekeepers, 2nd class gendarmerie, with rank of sub-assistant, 2nd class.
- 2000 gendarmes.

"Art.22: The strength indicated in Art.21 may be increased in accordance with what is fixed by the Budget Law, but not so for those mentioned in Art.20, for the alteration of which a special law is required.

"Art.23: The Executive Power shall take the necessary steps to give to each squadron of gendarmerie the number of school teachers necessary for the carrying out of courses of primary instruction for minors of obligatory school age, in places where there are no schools, or where these are insufficient. The teachers are attached to the squadrons or their detachments.

"Art.24: The Executive Power shall also assign school teachers and agronomists in the colonies to which Art.59 of this law refers.

## CHAPTER II.

### Recruitment--Discharge--Personnel Status.

"Art.25: Indispensable conditions for entering the national gendarmerie are as follows:

- 1° To be a native born Argentine, or a naturalized citizen.
- 2° To have good conduct record.
- 3° To have served in the Army or Navy, which may have been by draft, or to have served as a volunteer in the Army for one year, at least, as a soldier, cadet, noncommissioned officer or officer, with the only exception established in Item 3 of Art.28.

SECRET  
EXEMPTION

- 2° to possess the physical condition required to enter the service as a volunteer.
- 3° to satisfy the special tests prescribed by the Executive Power.
- 4° to be proposed by the Sanitation Board.

"Art.32: When the entrance of officers, or candidates, to become officers in the National Gendarmerie, the conditions to which the previous article refers, shall be observed in the following way:

- 1° To verify the conditions established in Items 1 to 3 of Art.32 and Art.33 by a board composed of the General Director of Personnel of the Army, the General Director of Gendarmerie and the Investigations Commissioner of the Federal Capital, which shall function under the Presidency of the Director General of Personnel.  
This commission shall be empowered to solicit data only from the heads of national departments, data and respective information.
- 2° The examination of the conditions indicated in Item 4 of the previous article shall be effected by the superior board of Medical Examination of the Army, and, in case this is not possible, by a board of three doctors of the Army, designated by the Director General of Personnel.
- 3° The efficiency tests to which Item 5 of Art.32 makes reference shall be taken into consideration by an examination board composed of the General Director of Gendarmerie as president, the legal adviser of Gendarmerie, and another civilian member to be designated by the Executive Power. If the Executive Power creates a school of Gendarmerie officers, the certificate showing approval of corresponding courses will be sufficient.

"Art.27: The Executive Power shall establish boards similar to those legislated for in the previous article, to examine the personal record, and take the examination of the candidates to become non-commissioned officers and those who enter as such to the National Gendarmerie.

"Art.28: The appointment of officers of the National Gendarmerie shall be made by a decree of the Executive Power based on the favorable report of the boards indicated in Art.26, whose evidence should be attached to the respective papers.

"Art.29: The appointment of non-commissioned officers shall take place on the recommendation of the General Director of Gendarmerie, based on the favorable report of the corresponding boards, whose evidence and contract of services should be attached to the respective papers.

"Art.30: The appointment of the gendarmes, and their entrance into gendarmes schools and schools for non-commissioned officers shall be recommended by the Chief of the Regiment, and to the respective papers the contract of services should be added, with the favorable opinion of the commander of the unit, or of the school which they have applied for.

"Art.31: Once the National Gendarmerie is organized entrance into same as an officer shall only be granted:

- 1: "To the rank of assistant" by promotion of candidates to become gendarmerie officers and gendarmerie assistants, 1st class and 2nd class subject to promotion.

SECTION 22 LIMITED  
CHAPTER 1.

- 2: "To the rank of assistant" to retired lieutenants of the permanent army, and those coming from the reserve of rank, who have served in it, at least, one year, in position as an officer.
- The number of vacancies in gendarmerie assistants, to be filled with the personnel indicated in this item, shall be made in such a way that for every fourth time place, only one vacancy will be filled.
- 3: "To the other ranks" the retired officers of the permanent army in accordance with title No. 1. The entrance of the personnel indicated in this item shall be made in such a way that for every three vacancies occurring in the corresponding rank, only one shall be filled.

"Art. 32: For the effects of the previous article preference shall be given to retired officers over those of the reserve, and among the first, those belonging to cavalry, artillery, engineers and infantry, in the order indicated.

If the Executive Power should create gendarmerie units for the river and maritime police, the provisions of this law referring to retired personnel or coming from the permanent army or its reserves, shall be understood to be as retired personnel coming from the general corps of the Navy.

"Art. 33: The personnel of surgeons, pharmacists and administration of the gendarmerie shall be designated from among the personnel which, possessing the conditions necessary for other officers, come from the Army or Navy by retirement or have served in it in their respective corps.

"Art. 34: Once the National Gendarmerie is organized, the personnel of troops shall enter in only one of the two following ways:

- 1° As gendarme or aspirant to become a non-commissioned gendarmerie officer; the vacancies of non-commissioned officers shall be filled by promotion.
- 2° As a non-commissioned officer, and in the grade corresponding to a non-commissioned officer, who has retired from the permanent army, or who has served in it more than 5 years.

The entrance of this personnel shall be made in such a way that only one vacancy of every three which takes place in the corresponding grade will be filled, except when it is impossible to fill this last, or it may be essential to fill it, the only case, when the fixed proportion may be exceeded.

The order of precedence shall be established in Art. 32.

"Art. 35: The following are indispensable conditions to be appointed an officer in the gendarmerie:

- 1° To possess the general conditions established in Art. 25.
- 2° Not to be older than:
  - a) Assistants: 32 years, except when the candidate comes from the gendarmerie in which case he may be up to 35 years of age.
  - b) 3° Commanders: 36 years.
  - c) Commanders: 40 years
  - d) Sub-inspectors: 43 years
  - e) Inspector: 46 years.

3° To have passed the 4th year in a national college, or normal school with the exception of officers or non-



Art.43: In the Gendarmerie the grade is a classification based on efficiency determined by the rank and file of the Gendarmerie and three members designated by the Executive Power which will have as a mission the annual classification of officers in the grade of lieutenant to 2nd-lieutenant giving in their opinion on their aptitudes and services. Their conclusions are of an informative character, but nobody can be promoted if there is no recommendation.

"Art.44: The promotion of a commissioned officer shall be made within the regiment and by selection.

"Art.45: The Executive Power shall regulate the particular conditions for promotion of officers, the standards to be followed by the classification board, and the conditions for promotion of the non-commissioned officers.

### CHAPTER III.

#### Pensions.

"Art.46: The personnel of the Gendarmerie which does not come from the Army or the Navy or is retired, shall have a right to pensions in the form established for the police of the Federal Capital with the exceptions and modifications established by the law.

#### retired

"Art.47: The services of officers and non-commissioned of the Army and Navy in the Gendarmerie, shall be computed as a bonus for the retirement pension in the manner established in the personnel law of the Army, to which end the Executive Power shall order that the corresponding discounts shall be deposited in the Monte Pío Militar, or shall be placed to the account of General Revenue if said Monte Pío does not exist.

"Art.48: The Gendarmerie personnel which becomes incapacitated for duty in some, provided that the unfitness was produced in the discharge of their duties, and it is duly proved that the person interested was serving in line of duty, shall have a right to pensions in accordance with the conditions fixed for the retirement of civilian personnel of the Ministry of War in the Personnel Law of the Army.

"Art.49: In the case in which in compliance with what is established in Art.6, the Gendarmerie is incorporated into the army as a reserve of the permanent army, the personnel shall have the right to retire in the form established for the personnel of the reserve. The Executive Power shall establish the manner and proportion which the funds deposited in the Civilian Pensions and Annuities Bank and their interest must pass to the Montepío Militar Bank or General Revenue account as the case may be.



Art. 51: The personnel of troops and a service contract on their entrance, the contract shall be regulated by the Executive Power. These contracts shall be renewed until the limits fixed in Article 52 of the present law.

There shall be no limitation in this respect, and Arts. 51, 52, 53 and 54 of the present law shall figure in the service contracts.

Art. 52: The salary of the personnel shall not be less than the minimum salary and shall certainly not be computed in it.

Art. 53: The salary of the non-commissioned Gendarmerie officers shall not be less than that established for the equivalent ranks in the permanent army according to Table 1, with a bonus of 10%.

Art. 54: The personnel of officers of the Gendarmerie shall have a salary not less than the salary, including emoluments of effective service, of the officers of the permanent army in accordance with Table 1.

Art. 55: The personnel of troops of the Gendarmerie who are married, shall have the right to a concession of homestead land in the terms established in Arts. 62 and 63 of the present law, and law number 10384.

#### CHAPTER VI.

Art. 56: The Ministry of Agriculture shall place at the disposal of the Ministry of the Interior and of the Ministry of War according as it corresponds, and in the measure required by these, the following fractions of fiscal lands:

- a) Two fractions of ten thousand hectares, each one in the territory of the Pampa.
- b) Three fractions of ten thousand hectares each one in the Territory of Rio Negro.
- c) Three fractions of ten thousand hectares each one in the Territory of Neuquen.
- d) Three fractions of ten thousand hectares each one, and one of five thousand hectares in the territory of Chubut.
- e) Three fractions of ten thousand hectares each one in the territory of Santa Cruz.
- f) A fraction of ten thousand hectares in the Territory of Tierra del Fuego.
- g) Two fractions of five thousand hectares each one in the Territory of Misiones.
- h) Three fractions of ten thousand hectares each one in the Territory of Formosa.
- i) Two fractions of ten thousand hectares each one, in the Territory of the Chaco.

Art. 57: The location of each one of the fractions of land referred to in the previous article shall be determined on the terrain by a Board composed of the Director General of Gendarmerie, an officer and a veterinary appointed by the Ministry of War, and an agronomist engineer appointed by the Ministry of Agriculture.

The selection of land will be made in accordance with the following requisites:

UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 11/11/2004

- a) they must be suitable to establish a homestead colony in them and, if it were necessary, facilities for land in the amount needed.
- b) their situation must correspond to the needs of the National Gendarmerie.
- c) those assigned to the mission of the Gendarmerie must satisfy the special conditions stipulated by the Executive Order.

"Art.58: The Director of the Gendarmerie, shall draw up the plan of the fractions of land allotted to in Art. 56 with the personnel under its control, the Ministries of the Interior, Justice and Public Instruction, and War, bearing the necessary expenses for their establishment according to the assignment of the land.

"Art.59: Each of the fractions of land in Art.56 shall serve as a base to form the 'homestead colony' in conformity with what is established in Articles 5 and 9 of Law 10,384. A part of some will be reserved and placed at the disposal of the Ministry of War for the establishment of a manoeuvre camp for draft and remount services, and another at the disposal of the Ministry of the Interior for the National Gendarmerie.

"Art.60: Of the part corresponding to the Ministry of the Interior, duly measured and staked out, shall be delivered to the Ministry of Justice and Public Instruction when solicited, a part not less than 10% of each one of the fractions mentioned in Art.56 for the purposes established in Art.5 of the Law 10,384.

"Art.61: The non-commissioned officers of the Army and of the Navy, ex-non-commissioned officers, and ex-conscripts in the National Territories, and the personnel of troops of the National Gendarmerie who are married and legal heirs of members of the Army and Navy, who request lots in the homestead colonies, shall have a preferential right to a concession, as also the selection of same, and for the purposes established in Art.14 of Law 10,384.

"Art.62: To each proprietor of a homestead lot who undertakes to build a house for himself and family, shall be granted in addition a lot of the fractions allotted to the future town.

"Art.63: The Director General of Gendarmerie and the Gendarmerie officers shall have a right to only one lot of the homestead, and in only one colony, and cannot acquire another during their service. If they are married, they have a right besides to a hectare in the towns to which reference is made in Art.62. These lots will be granted gratis, provided that they undertake to construct a home for themselves and family.

"Art.64: Neither the inspectors nor the Gendarmerie officers shall be permitted to rent or purchase real estate except that destined to habitation in the national territories during the time of their service, nor shall they be allowed to negotiate directly or indirectly in livestock or in food products which are not the product of their own homestead lot.

The transactions made in violation of the present article, and those carried out among the Gendarmerie personnel shall be null, and of no value.

"Art.65: The Ministry of War is authorized to rent the fractions of land assigned to same, in lots not greater than

for the first five years, and for a period of not less than five years, prior to the expiration of the period, on ordinary paper before the Government notary, and with the express condition that the improvements made are also a part of the live stock clearly established shall be for the benefit of the State.

The product of the land shall be destined to the purchase of live stock for the colony and improvement of the land, construction of roads, etc.

"Art.66: A similar authorization is granted to the Ministry of the Interior to purchase the fractions of land not occupied by homestead lots. The product of this rental is destined to same functions and improvements of the holdings of the national gendarmerie.

"Art.67: The rentals referred to in Arts. 65 and 66 of the present law, and Art.5 of Law 12,334 shall be granted, preferentially to proprietors of homestead lots except officers of the Gendarmerie, and only when there are not persons interested themselves, can the lots be assigned to people outside the colony.

"Art.68: The Executive Power is empowered to designate as civil chiefs in the Post and Telegraph offices, of the Civil Register, and inspectors of schools of the colonies which are created by the present law, the officers and non-commissioned officers of the Gendarmerie, who have command of the units or detachments that garrison them, without these functions giving them a right to extra pay or special remuneration.

## CHAPTER VII.

### Transient Regulations.

"Art.69: The land necessary for the construction of barracks for the Gendarmerie units is declared as of public utility.

"Art.70: The first organization of the National Gendarmerie is in the hands of the Ministry of War which shall place it at the disposal of the Ministry of the Interior once it is completed, and in any case before the 18 months' enforcement of the present law is up.

During the period previously indicated the Ministry of War shall order, by his own decision, the separation of officers from the Gendarmerie.

"Art.71: The Executive Power is authorized, during the organization of the National Gendarmerie to order on temporary duty to same, the number of officers of the permanent army that may be necessary for such service, and not to exceed a period of 18 months.

"Art.72: The first recruitment of officers of the National Gendarmerie shall take place:

- 1° From retired army officers, and who will enter the Gendarmerie with equivalent ranks (Table 1).
- 2° From police officers of the Federal Capital who request it, and who shall enter with the following ranks:
  - a) The commissaries, as sub-inspectors.
  - b) The sub-commissaries, as commanders
  - c) The assistants as 2nd commanders.

- 4) The officer in command, as assistant's
- 5) The officer as assistant, with more than 4 years service as assistant's.

3° ex-sergeant majors and first sergeants retired from the permanent army, and with the ex-non-commissioned officers of the same grade and with more than 10 years' service as non-commissioned officers. This personnel shall enter with the grade of "assistant".

4° from the officers of the National Territories of the National Territories and enter with the grade they held in it.

Art.73: The first recruitment of doctors, veterinary pharmacists and supply officers shall take place from the retired personnel of the Army and Navy and with the grade retained in said organizations and lacking the above, from civilian personnel, who will enter with a lower grade.

Art.74: The personnel indicated in Arts. 71 and 73 shall be designated provisionally, and shall be permanently appointed only when the Gendarmerie comes under the direct jurisdiction of the Ministry of the Interior.

Art.75: The first recruitment of the non-commissioned officers of the Gendarmerie shall take place:

- 1° From non-commissioned officers retired from the Army, who shall enter with the grades equivalent to those they held.
- 2° From ex-non-commissioned officers of the permanent army, who have served in the same for at least four years, and who enter with a rank equivalent to that which they had when discharged.
- 3° From the corporals, first corporals, 2nd sergeants, 1st police sergeants of the Federal Capital who request it, and who have served for at least four years. This personnel shall enter with the ranks corresponding to sub-assistant 3rd class, to assistant, first class.
- 4° From non-commissioned officers of the Gendarmerie of the National Territories, who enter with the grades held in said organization.

Art.76: The first recruitment of the gendarmes shall take place:

- 1° From the personnel which has served by draft.
- 2° From the personnel which has served for one year at least in the Army or Navy or Security Squadron of the Federal Capital.
- 3° From the present soldiers of the Gendarmerie of the National Territory.

Art.77: The personnel to which reference is made in Articles 71, 73, 74 and 75 should possess the qualities established in Arts. 23, 35, 36 and 37, and should be recommended by the Board established in the chapter referring to recruitment. The Gendarmerie Personnel of the National Territories which has not fulfilled the conditions established by the present law shall be declared discharged by this law, and they shall not have the preferential right to enter into the police of the territories and of the Federal Capital.

Art.78: The Examining Board established in Art.26 shall be composed, for the first recruitment of officers, by the General Director of the Gendarmerie, the legal police adviser of the Capital and a Divisional Auditor of the Army.

att.70: The ... to the  
cc: ...  
of the ...  
... off to ...

104.00: This is a handwritten note in the Council House of  
Law, the extension of the law to the Council House of  
Law, shall be given to the Council House, etc.

correlation between the two years' rainfall of the "rainfall  
enhancement" Feb. 62, 73 and 74.

ARMY STAFF

Lt.Colonel  
Major  
Captain  
1st lieutenant  
lieutenant  
Sergeant major  
1st Sergeant  
Sergeant  
1st Corporal  
Corporal

Send no more money.

Inspector  
Sub-inspector  
Commander  
2nd Commander  
Assistant  
Assistant 1st class  
Assistant 2nd class  
Sub-assistant 1st class  
Sub-assistant 2nd class  
Sub-assistant 3rd class

U.S.A.

CLASS  
EX  
196  
BY  
DATE

SUBJECT... OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE ARMY...  
... ARGENTINA.

FOR INFORMATION DIGEST

From... ARGENTINA... MILITARY

No. 2953 Date... January 15, 1923.

Replying to No. Date... 19

RECEIVED 4/2/23 FEB 13 1923  
6160: Combatant Arms.

Organization and functions of offices of chief or  
inspector general of several combatant arms.

The office of Inspector General of the Army was created Jan. 2, 1923 by Presidential decree. The post of the Inspector General corresponds to that of the "General of the Armies" in the United States Army. The incumbent has the rank of Major General.

The Inspector General depends directly and immediately on the Minister of War, whom he will assist in the direction, supervision and instruction of the Army.

The Inspector General exercises his functions through a Secretary's office in that which relates to orders, instruction and inspection, and through the General Staff of the Army in those matters for the preparation for war. Both of these depend directly on the Inspector General.

The Director of the Aeronautical Service of the Army, and the Director of Troops and Services of Communications depend directly on the Inspector General.

The Divisions (5) of the Army, the School of Fire, Cavalry School, Military College, and School for non-commissioned officers, depend directly on the Inspector General in that which pertains to instruction, inspection and preparation for war, and for emergency disciplinary measures.

The services also depend on the Inspector General regarding their preparation for war.

The duties and attributes of the Inspector General are:

- (a) Is the Commander-in-Chief of the mobilized army.
- (b) He recommends to the Minister of War the commanding generals, and of the units in case of mobilization.
- (c) He inspects directly, or through an officer whom he may designate, units, services and institutions listed above.
- (d) He supervises instruction of units, classifying and interpreting tactical regulations, especially pertaining to combat, in order to obtain uniformity in the instruction of troops.
- (e) He directs manoeuvres when there is more than one division.
- (f) He draws up tactical regulations and exercises, and

plans of instruction.  
(E) He recommends matters which should be taken up with the Ministry of Marine so as to assure the cooperation of the Army and the Navy, especially regarding the aeronautical service of both departments.

In case of absence of the Inspector General, his duties will be performed by the Chief of the General Staff on those matters which may be submitted to him.

12

5-23-69

SUBJECT--BILL PRESENTED--TO CONGRESS FOR AMNESTY TO VIOLATORS--  
OF ENROLLMENT AND MILITARY SERVICE LAWS.  
(FOR INFORMATION DIGEST)

From--ARGENTINA--

No. 2948

Date--January 17, 1923

Replying to No.-----

Date-----19

FEB 12 1923  
6290: Miscellaneous.

The Senate and Chamber of Deputies, etc.

Art.1°. Amnesty is extended to all the violators of the law on general enrollment (No.8129).

Those who are not enrolled will have to adjust their position within three months, if they reside in the country, or six months if they reside abroad, counting from the time of promulgation of this law.

Art.2° All infractors of recruitment law are amnestied (Title I of the organic law of the Army No.4707) in accordance with the following regulations:

- a) Infractors of military service law are exempted from penalty and from the service which they did not render, and shall enter the reserve directly or form a part of the reserve, national guard or territorial guard according to their age.
- b) Those excepted and who have not renewed their exception, may do so in the year 1923, by presenting themselves within the term fixed by existing regulations.
- c) Those in debt for military tax, are exempted from obligation to pay taxes and fines which corresponded to them up to Dec. 31'22.

Art.3° The Executive power shall have posted up copies of the present law and its regulations at the Legations, Consulates, enrollment offices, municipalities, police stations and offices of justices of the peace.

Art.4° To be communicated to the Executive Power.

In the observations accompanying his bill, Sr. Pinto states:

The bill which I have the honor to submit to the consideration of Your Honor is inspired in motives of justice and social harmony.

The position of many national citizens who have infringed the dispositions of the military laws is well known. A short time ago the daily press referred to the suffering of expatriated Argentines, voluntarily so if you wish, but who are thus expatriated as they do not wish to incur the severe penalties which accompany their infraction.

If this question is contemplated from the point of view of sane nationalism, the conclusion is arrived at that it is



indisputably convenient to incur costs into our community those Argentines, who for different reasons have incurred the punitive measures of the law. I am convinced that if Congress rightly exercises its constitutional prerogatives, it will carry out a good and beneficial humanitarian act, and will give peace and happiness to the homes and spirits, now in tribulation, of thousands of Argentine citizens.

This project has precedents which support it to a great extent. I need not refer to the memorable debates concerning concept and compass of amnesty as a constitutional faculty inherent to the Congress of the Nation, or need I refer to more recent projects which establish similar initiatives.

I have taken the articles of my project from that presented by the ex-deputy Artyro Goyeneche. In it, the point was carefully studied, and military law analyzed in all its details. I have omitted some of its dispositions believing them unnecessary, but I have maintained the fundamental concepts. In the same manner as the initiative mentioned, I have divided it in 2 parts in accordance with matter and the laws on the subject: that referring to law 6129 on general enrollment, and number 4707, on recruitment of the Army of the nation. (Page 2, Volume I, Year 1916, "Diario de Sesiones").

In order to terminate this brief exposition, I may mention that in submitting this initiative to your consideration, I have taken into account the situation of the young Argentine proletariat, which through ignorance or negligence, does not comply with its military obligations. Hence these are reasons of good nationalism and equity, which move me to present this bill, and for which I request your preferential attention.

NOTE BY M.A.

It seems that this would be a vicious law---to permit Argentine citizens to escape compulsory military service, and would pave the way for similar laws in the future.

# CONFIDENTIAL

3-1 2001-113

SUBJECT MILITARY ----ARGENTINA-----  
(FOR INFORMATION DIGEST)

From ARGENTINA-----2001-

No. 2974-----Date March 8, 1923.

Replying to No.-----Date APR 1923

6400: Military Finance.

Current budget; effect on military policies.

In connection with the preparation of the military budget for the year 1923, the Minister of Marine presented an interesting comparative study respecting the budget of Argentina and those of Chile and Brazil.

According to the said study the proportion of expenses provided for by the Ministries of War and the Navy of the three countries was as follows:

	Argentina Budget 1921-22	Brazil Budget 1922	Chile Budget 1921
War	9.2%	12.9%	9.7%
Navy	7.5%	9.1	20.4%

Comparative importation and exportation figures are:

Years	Argentina	Brazil	Chile
1919	1,636,135,425	913,374,264	262,179,689
1920	1,805,073,000	845,469,578	455,009,111

The figures corresponding to Argentina are much superior to those of Chile and Brazil, and it was pointed out that rationally Argentina should have a much larger Navy to protect her trade.

Binding Margin.

CONFIDENTIAL

1550: Equipment - 1551.

Improvement of the equipment.

A new uniform for the Argentine Army was recently approved, and it is said to be of British model. The previous one, the one still in use, was the German model, and that preceding was the French. These models mark a big period in the history of the Republic, which began the war of emancipation in the uniform and with the equipments of Spain. Those who object to the present outfit do so because of the Prussian helmet. The helmet is now fixed upon these changes will come into effect.

SUBJECT MILITARY -----ARGENTINA-----

----- (FOR INFORMATION-DIGEST) -----

From ARGENTINA-----

No. 3153-----

Date May 9----- 19 23

Replying to No.-----

Date JUN 6 1923----- 19

6190: Miscellaneous.

Proposed reorganization of the Argentine Army.

The Minister of War has almost completed the general plan of the reorganization of the Army, initiated by the present government upon the basis of establishing a modern organization within the present limits of the budget, and in conformity with the lessons learned during the last war.

As will be understood by the details which follow, three independent cavalry brigades are created, which are provided with the elements of mobilization necessary, armament and material, so they may operate as such, and new commands are created, at the same time as the composition of the present divisions of the Army is modified, adding to them combatant and auxiliary units such as the sections of exploring corps, heretofore unknown.

Although the greatest reserve upon this particular subject is maintained in the Ministry of War inasmuch as the details of the project have not been concluded, nor the corresponding decree signed, yet a general outline of the new organization has been published. This organization it is known is in force in similar armed institutions of neighboring countries for some time past.

By the project referred to the present cavalry brigades are dissolved, numbers 1, 5 and 6, and Regiment No.1 of field howitzers and the following new organizations are created in their place:

A command of mountain detachment denominated "Mendoza" and another of the same category called "Salta".

18 sections of communications, one for each regiment of infantry, with the exception of nos. 8 and 10 of this arm.

1 squadron of machine guns No.4 with a provisional garrison in Villa Mercedes (San Luis).

1/4 group of horse artillery, with station at Campo de Mayo.

Detachments of horse pontoon sappers, numbers 2,3 and 4 for the garrisons of Campo de Mayo, Concordia (Entre Rios) and San Rafael (Mendoza) respectively.

Likewise an exploring corps (exploradores baquianos) with stations in Mendoza and Salta is created.

Regarding the organization of the units, the project changes

6190: Miscellaneous.

the denominations of the following:

The 8th regiment of infantry will become the 8th regiment of mounted infantry;

The 10th, the 10th regiment of mounted infantry;

The 16th and 20th regiments of infantry will become the Chasseurs of the Andes (Cazadores de los Andes).

The 1st group of horse artillery will become the 3rd group, and the 2nd group the 4th. (Group in the Argentine organization corresponds to battalions in the United States.)

The three independent cavalry brigades will be formed by the following troops:

2nd cavalry brigade of the 2, 8 and 10th regiments of the arm, one squadron of heavy machine guns, one group of the 11th horse artillery, and a detachment of mounted pontoon sappers of the 2nd of that arm.

3rd cavalry brigade of the 3, 6 and 11th regiments of the arm, one squadron of heavy machine guns of the 3rd, one group of horse artillery of the 3rd group, and one detachment of horse pontoon sappers of the 3rd detachment of that group.

4th cavalry brigade of the 4th, 7th and 12th regiments of that arm, one squadron of heavy machine guns of the 4th, one group of horse artillery of the 4th group, and a detachment of horse pontoon sappers of the 4th.

The divisions of the army will be reorganized as follows:

1ST DIVISION OF THE ARMY:

Will be formed by the 1st, 2nd and 3rd regiments of Infantry. Each regiment with its staff, one section of communications, 2 battalion staffs, one company of heavy machine guns; and four companies of infantry. To the first regiment of infantry will be attached one escort battery; one cavalry regiment; one of artillery; with one regimental staff and two group staffs. One of the groups will be mixed composed of two light batteries and one battery of howitzers; the other group will have two light batteries. One battalion of pontoon sappers of the first and general auxiliary services.

2ND DIVISION OF THE ARMY.

Will be formed by the 5th, 6th and 7th regiments of Infantry, the 6th having a battery of escort artillery. One squadron of the 2nd cavalry; the 2nd regiment of artillery, composed the same as the first of that arm detailed above, and the second battalion of pontoon sappers. To this will be added the 8th Regiment of mounted infantry.

3RD DIVISION OF THE ARMY.

Will be composed of the 9th, 11th and 12th regiments of infantry, 9th cavalry, 3rd artillery composed as the first of that arm, and the 3rd battalion of pontoon sappers. Attached to this division will be the 10th regiment of mounted infantry.

4TH DIVISION OF THE ARMY.

Will be formed by the 13th, 14th and 15th regiments of

6190: Miscellaneous.

infantry, one squadron of the 4th cavalry, 4th Regiment of Artillery, and 4th battalion of pontoon sappers. To this division will be attached the mountain detachment composed of the headquarters, one section exploring corps, 16th regiment of mountain infantry, Cazadores de los Andes and two batteries of the first group of mountain artillery.

5th DIVISION OF THE ARMY.

Will be formed by 17th, 18th and 19th regiments of Infantry, 5th Cavalry, 5th Artillery and 5th battalion of pontoon sappers. Attached to this division will be the mountain detachment composed of the headquarters of same, one section of exploring corps, 20th regiment of Infantry, Cazadores de los Andes, and the second group of mountain artillery.

Another modification of importance in this new organization will be that of the School of Fire in that it will really become a school of application for the army. For this purpose the 4th regiment of Infantry will be attached. Other modifications complete this plan, but they do not change the general structure of the army indicated above.

Report #3152, May 9, 1923.

SERVICE REPORT

SUBJECT Military Policy and Reorganization of Argentine Army.

From ARGENTINA

No. 3312

Date August 27, 1923

Replying to No. Date, 19

The Executive Power presented a bill to the Chamber of Deputies in its session of August 22, 1923 outlining Argentine Military Policy and proposing the reorganization of the army. This bill is summarized as follows:

"POLICY

"The Nation has latent energies more than sufficient to continue its traditional pacifist policy of real confraternity with all countries of the globe. This generous aspiration of our people, this policy of peace and concord, is that which guides today, as always, the Executive Power. But it cannot be an obstacle for the E.P. to devote attention necessary to the armed institutions of the country and make them efficient organisms, as unfortunately the hour has not arrived, and perhaps will not arrive for some time when right will be the best guarantee of the sovereignty of the liberty of nations.

"Of the two projects which are submitted today to the consideration of Your Honor that entitled 'Constitution of the Argentine Army' tends towards a more appropriate distribution of resources and personnel which the country possesses, and will enable us to place the nation en masse on a war footing, as would be required by a defensive war, for our intention is not to appeal to force to solve international questions, except in a case where this would be imposed for our own preservation, and we have the unbreakable resolution to resort to all the energies of which we are capable to assure it, and in consequence it is necessary for all Argentines able to handle arms to contribute, or to give their services for auxiliary purposes.

"The other project 'Personnel Law' tends to improve the cadres of the Army.

"Profiting by experience gained in the World War, where it was demonstrated that for defensive purposes all the valid elements of a country must be resorted to, and therefore the time to be devoted to military service is increased. In this way the organization and instruction of the personnel will be carried out by the same principles, and they will be under one direction only, whereby homogeneousness will be achieved.

"According to 'La Prensa' the project entitled 'Constitution of the Argentine Army' is only a modification of Chapters III, IV, V and XV of Law 4707, and the new law fixes the Army organization as follows:

"Army of the Line (classes from 18 to 39 years), and the militia classes from 40 to 49 years. The Army of the Line is

subdivided into Army of the 1st Line, (classes from 18 to 29 years) and Army of the 2nd Line (classes from 30 to 38 years).

"The Army of the 1st Line is divided into the Permanent Army (class of 20 year, as it is now) and in reserve of same (classes from 18 to 38 years).

"The Army of the 2nd Line will be composed of its instructed personnel and by the reserve of same (personnel not instructed or deficiently instructed).

"The reserve of the Permanent Army is divided into mobilization reserve (instructed personnel) and complementary reserve (non-instructed personnel).

"The militias shall be formed by the National Guard, and the Territorial Guard---which shall be composed of two parts---one of mobilization-----instructed personnel-----and the other complementary.

"In the second project the E.P. separates the law of personnel of the Army from that of Military Service. In this law the E.P. touches on:

"Classification of personnel to be established in two large groups, military and civilian. The military personnel will be composed of the combatant personnel and by the auxiliary personnel. The combatant personnel will be formed by officers and soldiers in the arms of Infantry, Cavalry, Artillery and Engineers. Technical officers and General Staff officers without ceasing to belong to their original arm will be placed on special lists.

"The auxiliary personnel will be composed of the Corps of auxiliary services such as: Sanitation Corps, subdivided into sections: doctors, pharmacists and dentists; Military Veterinary Corps; Military Administration Corps; divided into quartermaster section, and administration section; the Military Chaplains; the Corps of Military Musicians; and the Corps of Military Justice, which is temporarily left as at present organized, as its organization depends largely on that given to military justice, by the law of military discipline still being studied.

"The project fixes minutely the duties, rights and attributes of all the personnel; it may be said, summarizing, that it concedes military rank without differences to the auxiliary personnel, except that which relates to the command of troops.

"Military status and duty comprise: active service (subdivided into effective service and 'waiting list'), passive service, retired, temporary service and indefinite leave. The project fixes in detail the status of the retired and their obligations, rights, etc.

"The new status created (temporary service and indefinite leave) comprise the personnel of the reserve and that of the Army of the 2nd Line whether in service or not; it fixes duties, etc. in said cases.

"With reference to recruitment, the project specially regulates conditions required for entrance into auxiliary service corps, which may be summarized in the fact that they grant a professional title for functions and entrance examination.

"As a fundamental modification it must be mentioned that the recruiting of reserve officers who shall have the same period of service as the rest of their class and the fulfill-



ment of military conditions which guaranteed proper discharge of their duties without discriminating whether they are students or not.

"In the chapter on grades of rank, the grade of sub-lieutenant is suppressed, and the denominations of the grades of general are also changed; the first as it is judged unnecessary; the second to avoid, as it happens at the present time that the grades determine functions; thus, for instance, at present there are generals of brigade and generals of division who without distinction command divisions and not brigades; besides these last units will disappear in the new organization of the army, except in the cavalry.

"A different denomination of the grades is given in the auxiliary corps to that of the combatants, which indicates the specialty, but not the function.

"The project increases the effectives, taking as a base on the one part the needs of peace times, and on the other, to have available sufficient cadres in case of mobilization.

"Thus, the number of the present generals of brigade is increased to 20; the number of colonels and lieutenant colonels is more or less the same as that existing at present; in the grades of lieutenant to major, the increase is relatively considerable. The proportion between the grades is about equal to that of the present time.

"Regarding promotions, the system given in Law 9675 is abandoned as in practice it has given very unfavorable results, and a return in general has been made to Law 4707, or by seniority and selection, primarily the latter for the higher grades, and the former for lower ones.

"Promotion is by roster of arm from lieutenant to colonel, and by general roster for the other grades. The system, in general, is of the closed roster.

"Conditions for promotions shall be: to 1st Lt. 6 years effective service in the grade. Promotion by seniority, but officers of artillery and engineers must have qualified in a special course.

"From 1st Lieutenant to Captain by seniority, 5 years of service and qualified in a course established by the Executive Power.

"From Captain to Major: half by seniority, and half by selection: 5 years service.

"From Major to Lt. Colonel one third by seniority and two thirds by selection, 4 years service and to have successfully passed a test to judge capacity for higher grades.

"In the other grades promotion will be granted exclusively by selection.

"For auxiliary officers in general the same exactions are made as for the combatants, the minimum time varying, and also the tests or special courses which the officers must comply with.

"In the grades of troopers, requirements for promotion are also increased. A Board is created to give information on merits with similar obligations to the present Board on information.

"An annual qualification of officers into three groups will be made thus: fit for higher rank, fit for rank, and unfit. Officers included in the last category will be eliminated, those

NOV 19 1964

11599)

in the second category included in it for those of the first is granted as valid



in the  
inclu

these

18 24

and

that

SUBJECT MILITARY ----ARGENTINA

(FOR INFORMATION DIGEST)

From -- ARGENTINA

No. **3159**

Date May 24

19 23

*Replying to No.*

RECEIVED U. S. W. JUN 16 1923

. 19

6000: Military System and Policy

Historic military policy: influence of geographic location and economic requirements on development of military system and policy.

On May 15th in the course of the session of the Chamber of Deputies the Military Organization of Argentina was discussed the following speech being made by Deputy Albarraoín. (Only a translated synopsis of same is given).

"I present a project whereby the Chamber of Deputies shall appoint a special committee comprised of five deputies to study and present a bill providing laws for the military preparedness of the country.

"In one of the recent sessions of the Chamber a vote of applause was made on the work of the Argentine Delegation to the Fifth Panamerican Congress, for the Delegation had upheld the Argentine traditions in international affairs, and sustained the indisputable principle of pacifism, which the Argentine Republic has always defended. Argentina had also followed the example of the United States and Europe in discussing the matter freely and frankly in an open debate, allowing the press to take part in the debate. This, of course, means also the people, who after all are those who suffer the consequences of the acts which are accomplished at these conferences.

"The Panamerican Conference has finished its work, but in such a way that instead of bringing peace to our minds, as many had expected, has simply brought up a series of questions, which in our country at least has brought about a state of intranquillity, one might even say of stupor and amazement.

"The Argentine people, silent and busy at their work absolutely untroubled by international questions, without foreseeing any possible conflicts, has heard the echo of the Santiago Conference like a warning sound. The difficulties encountered by the Argentine Delegation and the disillusion suffered when they worked hard for the reduction of land and naval armaments, attempting to bring about concrete declarations and not only diplomatic vagaries.

"As a true and sad summary of the Chile Conference we find that the peoples of South America are to be left to their own efforts inasmuch as military preparedness is concerned. No doubt this is but the right of political sovereignty, but as in this case it comes from a Congress of an international character it is much more important.

"What this really means is that armed peace in the states of the American continent is a fact. Armed peace which has had such terrible consequences in Europe and which we did not wish under any circumstances in South America.

6000: Military System and Policy.

"Therefore it is better that we set our poetical conceptions of undefended peace to one side, and wonder if the Republic is even able to defend itself.

"The fact that Brazil's organization counts with 84,000 men under arms, besides the state forces; her military and war industries are in a productive state, powder, steel and projectile factories in working order with numerous garrisons all over her territory. Further she has tremendous resources in men and material accumulated on her frontiers; the railways are built from a highly strategic point of view, and large purchases of armaments and material of every kind have been made.

"I do not think that Brazil intends to provoke a conflict with us, but at the same time I do think that Brazil attributes too much importance to the problem of internal unity of her territory, and the enormous length of her coastline, which explains her attitude to some extent.

"Nevertheless I do believe that Argentina should attend to her military preparedness. I propose that by special law a Board for National Defense be constituted. This board should not only count with the cooperation of the technical experts of the Ministry of War and Marine, but the people should also become intimately connected with military institutions. Heads of industries, businesses, statesmen and politicians, and in fact all the people should contribute to their country's military preparation.

"It is a very common mistake in South America to think that military preparedness is only in the hands of soldiers. The Army should be seconded by all the vital forces of the country. The experience of the World War only demonstrated these facts too clearly, and we are particularly vulnerable, for even powder, which is the bread of the armies, must today be purchased in Europe.

"I suggest that the country prepare serenely and methodically the solution of these matters, not undertaking a feverish purchasing of arms campaign at any price and of any quality.

"The Argentine Republic has always solved her conflicts by means of arbitration, making this sacrifice for peace and concord with her sisters of the South American Continent. We have always lost territory through these arbitrations. Our boundaries are now definitely fixed, and no conflict seems possible except as the outcome of armed peace. "

Report #3159, May 24, 1933.

8000: Military System and Policy.

The Annual Report of the Ministry of War begins with a general resumé of the position of the Army, setting forth with entire frankness what the army needs in order to be an efficient instrument for national defense.

Up to the present the chief cause for deficiencies has been lack of funds.

The first condition for its efficiency is that it must not be used for political purposes.

Armies are not improvised and the Minister says that much work must be put it to place it on a modern basis.

Law 9875 "Cadres and Promotions" will be revised shortly, for after the sanction of Law 11079, it only offers disadvantages, prejudicial to the service and morale of the officers, shutting off, as it does, all possibility of a future career.

Organic Law 4707 will also be modified, for it no longer insures the cooperation of all able citizens for national defense.

During the current year the Executive Power was obliged to convoke 5,000 conscripts more than last year, although there is no budget law, and it is quite impossible to wait for Congress to sanction the budget before calling up the conscripts.

There is urgent need for renewal of war material. Arms in use in 1914 are now but children's toys.

Since 1911, not a single appropriation has been made for the purchase of armament, and since 1912 not a grain of power or weapon for the army has entered the country.

In thirteen years the material has aged as much as if a century had passed, and not only is it antiquated, but it is notoriously inferior to that possessed by other South American countries.

The use of poisonous gases is barred by conventions, yet it is a possibility, and nobody can be sure that the enemy will not make use of it. Yet in the Argentine arsenals there is not a single mask on hand.

In view of the size of Argentina's territory, the decentralization of the army services is absolutely necessary, and this will be undertaken; also a new system will be introduced for recruiting of "asimilados".

Concerning the construction of barracks, the Ministers says that the present system of including a small sum annually to build a number of barracks simultaneously is unsatisfactory, and at the present rate it will be at least ten years before any are finished.

Finally a new Code of Military Justice will be compiled, the present one is quite out of date and many of its provisions unsuitable.

Report #3159, May 24, 1923.

CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT MILITARY ----ARGENTINA-----

(FOR INFORMATION DIGEST)

From ARGENTINA-----

No. 3176-----

Date July 1, 1923

AUG 1 1923

Replying to No.-----Date-----, 19

6410: Organization and Functions of Army  
System of Finance.

The following table shows the proposed increase of pay for noncommissioned officers of the Army for 1924.

		(Prizes for Constancy)					
		Bill		With the "Premios de Constancia"			
		Y e a r s					
		BUDGETS					
		1920:1921: 1924: 0 to 5: 5 to 10: 10 to 15: After 15					
Corporals		\$100:	\$110:	\$160 :	\$170	:\$182.50	:\$197.50 : \$217.50
"1st							
class		120:	132:	180 :	192.50:	207.50 :	227.50 : 252.50
Sergeants		140:	154:	230 :	245.-	265.- :	290.- : 320.00
1st "		170:	187:	250 :	270.- :	295.- :	325.- : 365.-
Sergeants							
Major		200:	220:	280 :	300.- :	325.- :	355.- : 395.-

Binding Margin.

6400: 17

On June 30th the Senate and Chamber of Deputies authorized the Executive Power to increase by \$3,742,428.13 the following appropriations of the Ministry of War from the month of January to July inclusive. (1923)

<u>Item</u>	<u>APPROPRIATION</u>	<u>Per month</u>
For general repairs of the barracks and military buildings.....		4,166.66
Aeronautical service of the Army special pay.....		3,100.00
For medicines, and medical appliances.....		4,166.66
General expenses, Military Hospital		1,580.00
For wages and material, War Arsenal....		50,000.00
General expenses of the Army.....		<u>471,619.27</u>
Total per month.....		534,632.59
Total per year.....		<u>3,742,428.13</u>

Report #3176, July 1, 1923.

6010: Military Establishment.

Composition; maximum authorized strength of component parts.

It is proposed to increase the total number of conscripts in the Army in 1924 to 25,000.

Report # 3176, July 1, 1923.



SERVICE REPORT

SUBJECT-- ARMAMENTS AND MILITARY CONSTRUCTIONS --ARGENTINA--

From-- ARGENTINA--

No. 3210

Date-- August 15 1923

Replying to No.

Date-- 19

SEP 5 1923

From "La Prensa" July 31, 1923.

"The plans referring to the reorganization of Argentina's military power merit the greatest support of public opinion in view of the failure of the healthy tendencies towards a convention for the limitation of armaments to consolidate the frank harmony reigning in South America.

"After this failure, the country remained pending on the resolutions which the Government might adopt taking into account the feverish activities of some of our neighbors, who pledge and exhaust their resources and their credit, in order to achieve a military preponderance, which surpasses the limits of simple defensive foresight, and inspires suspicions, in spite of the traditional fraternity which will soon be secular.

"Under such circumstances, the plan to reorganize our army, providing material necessary for an efficient defense and also barracks and other constructions indispensable, means a national aspiration; the atmosphere is favorable and it is well to encourage it, as Congress will, without prejudice of amending possible errors and lack of foresight and correcting deficiencies, sometimes inevitable. On the basis of a prudent solution to the military problem the matter should be approached, without, however, pledging the States' finances unduly.

"The fundamental premise to be observed is that no huge programmes costing millions to execute must be considered. As the message of the Executive Power is of a confidential nature it is impossible to know what the proposed purchases of war material cover.

"The programme for military constructions, in spite of the large sum of money needed to fulfill it, does not satisfy altogether the needs of the army. The first noticeable defect comes from the error of basing the project on the present more or less without taking into consideration the successive enlargements which will take place in the lengthy period of paying off the 120 millions cost. In order not to enter into greater details, we shall only mention the limitation to five divisions of the army and three divisionary quartermaster departments. The need for a new division (regional) of Argentina's vast territory is already felt, and there is no doubt that it is essential to form a sixth military district.

"It would be a serious error to explain the suppression made of military constructions in the first and second divisions of the army. It is planned to have only three

Binding Margin.

"sub-intendencias (quartermaster departments). In case of war the mistake of this would be made very manifest, for from the time a big mobilization would begin, the five present divisions would have to mobilize with their respective branches, and naturally the divisional "sub-intendencias" (quartermaster departments) as well. Hence having only three it would be necessary to improvise two at the critical moment.

"The places assigned for the building of barracks and military constructions are not faultless as often pointed out previously by this paper. For instance, the independent cavalry division which should be stationed on the littoral would lack barracks in the zone, their front might be, in general, the line from Monte Caseros to Posadas.

"Of the four cavalry barracks planned in Mesopotamia only three at Curuzu-Cuatia are suitable. Those proposed at Concordia, Gualaguay and Parana will hardly do for the divisional cavalry. Perhaps, though, it is thought that the action of cavalry is finished here as well as in Europe. This is a great mistake.

"Similar observations could be made on the place selected for barracks for horse artillery in Villa Mercedes (San Luis) and in Goya (Corrientes).

"It is to be observed that as only one independent cavalry division in that sector has been assigned, it is totally bereft of any immediate means of defense. To prove this we have only to mention the good example given by our neighbors of the north-east, who since last year have converted the old independent brigade stationed in Rio Grande del Sur into three independent cavalry divisions which are near the Argentine and Uruguayan frontiers. These divisions can receive the cooperation of various corps of mounted infantry, established at a short distance from the Uruguay River, apart from the other war materials at the command of the neighboring states on the northeast frontier sector.

"These and other errors in placing the barracks, and therefore the units of the permanent army, whose action in case of mobilization is pointed out by experience, are deficiencies in the projected military constructions".

From "La Prensa" August 14, 1923.

"The project for military constructions, which is related with the units which might enter into the constitution of the divisions of independent cavalry, only mention the following works in the fourth region which comprises Cordoba and the western Andean provinces: 3 barracks for cavalry in Villa Mercedes, San Rafael and Tunuyan and one for horse artillery at Villa Mercedes; in the third region -littoral---there is only one barracks at Goya for horse artillery; in the second region, which comprises the province of Buenos Aires and the southern territories, apart from the quarters for a corps of divisional cavalry and another for artillery at Campo de Mayo, buildings are only mentioned to house the military districts in the territories. One in the Pampa, two in Rio Negro and one in Chubut.

"Regarding the war materials contemplated only a General Direction of Armaments is mentioned. Nothing is said or planned for the Remount Service.

"The spots selected to place barracks and quarters are not an arbitrary matter. The case of the independent cavalry

is typical and conclusive. It should be established in the more open sectors, or in those places which are most exposed to foreign invasions, and with more reason when it is necessary to protect national wealth or positions of exceptional importance.

"A rapid review of our principal frontier sectors is sufficient to place in evidence the lack of foresight which is evident in leaving large parts of the territory holding immense riches abandoned, and which could easily be seized by any invader.

"Our independent cavalry divisions have not yet been organized and in the situation chosen for the new barracks, there hardly figures one or two corps of independent cavalry at 20, 30 or more leagues from the nearest frontier.

"There is no doubt that the Argentine frontier is totally abandoned in the northeast and in the south. Brigades of flying cavalry should be created, duly completed with corps of mounted infantry, batteries of horse artillery, etc. The barracks of which should be technically placed in the southern territories to protect them from a vandalistic attack. At least two divisions of independent cavalry complete, and on a war organization should remain on the north eastern frontier.

"As an efficient complement to the cavalry organization, the breeding of horses should be properly organized, and the respective regional depots established. These regional depots should also be preferentially situated on the northeastern sector and in the southern territories.

"In connection with all the above the removal of the central war arsenal, now situated in the middle of the city of Buenos Aires, is considered essential. It is far from the centers of exploitation of raw materials which are used in the establishment, and from the center of the territory and the large sectors which it would have to provide in case of mobilization."

CONFIDENTIAL

G-2 REPORT

SUBJECT--MILITARY---ARGENTINA-----

------(FOR INFORMATION DIGEST)-----

From ARGENTINA-----

No. 3213----- Date----- August 29-----, 1923

Replying to No.----- Date----- SEP 11-----, 19

6000: Military System and Policy.

Historic military policy.

The military history of the Argentine Republic is extremely confused. Foreign wars are so mixed up with civil wars, that it becomes very difficult to determine the true character of the battles, for we find on both sides men who spoke the same tongue, had the same origin, and invoked identical principles.

Yet it is possible to find (without going farther than 1806) large subdivisions; the defeat of the English invaders (which forms a legitimate part of Argentine military history; the war of independence, that is, against Spain, assisted for some time by creole (Argentine born) reactionary elements; the formation of national unity by means of internal strife, or rather, in spite of it; occupation by civilization of the land uncultivated by the savages----Indians; national wars against Brazil and Paraguay (without counting the various episodes of the wars of Rosas against England and France).

A period apart is formed by the beginning of the National Constitution (national convention in Santa Fe 28th of September of 1860) or even after the battle of Pavon (17th of September 1861) which was notable for the absolute "nationalism" of Argentina's part. Even though there were agitations and disturbances in 1874, 1880, 1890, 1893 and 1905, these were sporadic, not epidemic, and did not put national unity in danger.

In 1810 the population of Argentina was 400,000 inhabitants; in 1819; 580,000; in 1851; 900,000; in 1865 of 1,500,000; in 1895 of 4,100,000; in 1910; 7,000,000.

The Uruguayans, with whom Argentina fought on so many occasions in 1810 numbered 40,000; in 1855, 200,000; in 1910 1,100,000.

The population of Brazil was in 1810 of 3,000,000 inhabitants; in 1865 of 8,500,000; in 1888 of 14,000,000; in 1910 it was from 19 to 20,000,000.

The military power of a nation depends among other factors on its population and component elements. Thus when the Wars of Independence took place from 1810 to 1824, the mean population of the vice-royalty (Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay and Upper Peru) was of less than half a million inhabitants.

## 6000: Military System and Policy

### The British Invasion of 1806 and its Repulse (La Reconquista).

The forces which in 1806 could not resist the 1,800 British veterans under Beresford were badly armed militia, as the few good soldiers of the line available had remained in Montevideo. Recovered from their surprise and determined to protect their honor and freedom, six weeks later this group of Argentines, Spaniards and foreigners (some Uruguayans and Frenchmen) reconquered the city of Buenos Aires. This event had great political consequences.

During the year from 1806 to 1807 from the "Reconquista" to the "Defensa" the only preoccupation of Argentines and Spaniards was the expected second invasion, and they worked hard to militarize the country, become strong and resist, for they had been abandoned by their legal Government: Spain. From this collective effort, directed by Liniers, an army of 9,000 men was raised out of a total population of from 80 to 70,000 inhabitants. Thus the Army of the Defense was the population itself: laborers, peones, artesans, employees, merchants, blacks and whites, women and children.

On June 28th, 1807 the British Army landed at the spot known today as Ensenada (near the city of La Plata) and commenced the advance on Buenos Aires. General Whitelocke had 8,000 men. After various days of skirmishing the decisive battle took place in the streets of the city of Buenos Aires and the incredible victory of the "porteños" (dwellers of the city) took place on an enemy superior in organization, military instruction and numbers, made the English abandon the River Plate, including Montevideo, forever.

### Wars of the Independence.

Argentina's military forces were organized on May 25, 1810. It was sufficient for them to show their mettle for Spanish power to crumble. What is known as "Wars of the Independence" are in particular the wars undertaken for the other peoples of America by Argentina in order to make them independent of Spain. The "porteños" did not think only of themselves and the nearby provinces, they sought the liberty of all the vice-royalty (Paraguay, Uruguay, part of Bolivia and even Chile). In this, Argentina was well advised, for if the Spanish became strong in neighboring states the "insurgents" would soon suffer, and a Spanish Army anywhere in America was a common menace.

Argentina's triumph meant not only liberty for herself, but also for others. The revolution having been victorious in Argentina, the Provisional Government "Junta" wished to place under its authority all the provinces of the vice-royalty, but there were neither soldiers, officers nor general available. Everything was improvised by Moreno and Belgrano.

### Campaign in Upper Peru.

General Antonio González Balcarce marched to assist the rebels in Upper Peru, and after a defeat at Cotagaita, October 27, 1810 he was victorious at Suipacha. After this, Upper Peru from Desaguadero (on Lake Titicaca) was under the authority of the Government Junta at Buenos Aires. This triumph was not definite and in September 1815, after a march on Oruro, the Argentines suffered a series of defeats. For the different campaigns in Upper Peru Argentina raised armies first of 2,000 and later of 4,000 men. Argentina was unable to keep Upper Peru, but its present territory was saved. Thus in 1815 and 1816 it was the

## 8000: Military System and Policy

only country which put at our side its own interests, to deliver other countries. The last invader from Upper Peru was repulsed in 1821.

### Paraguayan Campaign in 1810.

General Belgrano left in September 1810 for Paraguay, which was then the most backward country of South America, in order to liberate it. He marched at the head of 1,000 soldiers to Asuncion. But on January 18, 1811 he retired to the south of the River Tacuari to await reinforcements, for the enemy was much stronger in number. Eventually Belgrano was beaten, but he had prepared the movement which later was to free Paraguay from Spanish domination.

### Uruguayan Campaign.

The third expedition undertaken by order of the Junta was the most important.

In January 1811 the vice-roy came from Spain to the River Plate and gave orders to the Junta to submit. On its refusal the vice-roy declared war on Buenos Aires and ordered the occupation of Colonia (Uruguay) by Vigodet. General Belgrano, who had returned from Paraguay was appointed to direct the campaign against the Spaniards in Uruguay. His army numbered about 4,000 men. Later, the difficult mission given to Belgrano was taken away from him, and he was prosecuted for his unfortunate campaign in Paraguay. General Rondeau was appointed commander-in-chief, and with the Uruguayan, Artigas, Argentine and Uruguayan armies joined and besieged Montevideo. The siege went on intermittently for about 3 years, and finally the surrender of Montevideo was the surrender of Spanish power in the River Plate.

### Chilean Campaign.

The United Provinces of the River Plate-----that part which is today the Argentine Republic-----was free from Spanish power from the year 1810, but as Mitre said later "these provinces had within their flesh nails of steel". Argentina got rid of the steel nails easily enough-----not so her neighbors.

A revolution took place in Chile on September 18, 1810. It was headed amongst others by an Argentine, and later assistance was asked from Argentina. A detachment headed by Commander Balcarce crossed the Andes in 1813, and after various battles, and a disaster at Rancagua, the Argentine detachment covered the retreat of the Chilean emigrants to Mendoza. There General San Martin was waiting. San Martin is Argentina's Washington; his genius made him see that a Chilean-Argentine alliance would bring about the independence of all America.

The political condition of the United Provinces did not permit of much being done. However, Pueyrredon, who was San Martin's friend, helped him, and an Army was organized by December 1816 consisting of 4,500 men, 1,600 horses and many mules. This was sufficient to liberate Chile with the assistance of its population. The difficulty was to get there. The crossing of the Andes is considered an incomparably superior feat to Bonaparte's crossing of the Alps, by Argentine historians, and certainly is one of the most wonderful undertakings of the kind. San Martin not only liberated Chile, but also Peru and half South America, and going north he met Bolivar, who was coming south, and together they terminated the work begun by the crossing of the Andes.

The united Argentine and Chilean Armies numbered 5,000 men;

#### 6090: Military system and policy.

4,000 infantrymen and 1,000 cavalry, and they had 22 cannons.

#### Liberation of Peru.

After the battle of Maipo, San Martin became the "General of the Andes", but more for America than his own country. San Martin believes that the consequences of Maipo should be the liberation of Peru and a val dominion on the Pacific, and he knew that no alone could reach Lima. The expedition to Peru was by sea. Peru was torn the strong hold of Spanish power in America, weakened and reduced to the defensive.

The army which San Martin took to Peru left Valparaiso on August 30, 1820 with 4,118 soldiers and about 300 officers. The Chilean squadron cooperation, commanded by Cockrane, was composed of 24 vessels. San Martin had carte blanche and had been appointed generalissimo of the expedition to Peru by the Chilean Government.

San Martin's operations in Peru were extremely complex. Finally San Martin retired and Bolivar appeared on the scene having been appointed generalissimo of the troops of the four nations: Argentina, Chile, Peru and Colombia. After the battle of Ayacucho and the capitulation of La Serna the Wars of the Independence came to an end. Spain's power in America was but a shadow of what it had been, and the defeat at Ayacucho symbolizes the definite transformation of the continent, and an immense change in social, political and economic conditions in America.

#### Civil Wars.

For over fifty years civil wars went on in Argentina; the provinces fought within themselves, one against the other, several against the so-called national government, like battles of the blind, in fact, hundreds of these battles took place and their only excuse was that the nation, as such, did not exist. The characteristics of these battles were: soldiers by force, incorporation of defeated soldiers into the victorious army, or else beheading the defeated, much individual bravery, but complete absence of art in combination of energy in advances, frequent defections, predominance of cavalry in effectives, tactical surprises brought about by the presence of only one battalion of infantry, etc.

Then there were wars against the Indians, their justification being that a population has a right to unexploited territory which it needs, and a superior social formation must fatally absorb an inferior one when the latter is no good and in the way. Today the interchange of products and law of common universal education, and obligatory military service law have developed the sentiment of unity of the country.

#### War with Brazil.

When Brazil separated from Portugal, Uruguay became a part of the Brazilian Empire. But its domination over Uruguay was always considered as temporary in Montevideo. Hence the work of redemption begun by the 33 Uruguayan patriots did not surprise anyone, and on August 28, 1825 the Chamber of Representatives decreed its union with the other Argentine provinces, and the Argentine Government decided to protect the Uruguayan revolution. The Argentine Congress in its turn declared the Uruguayan Provinces incorporated once more into the River Plate Confederation, and ordered the observation army stationed in Entre Rios

Report # 3213, August 29, 1923.

2000: Military System and Policy.

Province to go to Uruguay. In 1826 a large part of Uruguayan Territory was liberated, war being carried into the Brazilian state of Rio Grande del Sur. The Peace Treaty was not signed until August 27, 1828, a year and a half after the battle of Itazuingo. Hence after 3 years of war the work started by the 35 Uruguayans was finished. Its end was not logical due to lack of foresight on the part of the Argentine statesmen, for before Argentina's intervention, Uruguay was a part of the River Plate Union, and after Argentina's victories, Uruguay was constituted as a free and independent state. It is impossible to judge the operations of the Argentine or enemy armies at that time with a purely strategic or tactical criterion. The Governments, the warriors, the patriots who invoked patriotism unceasingly, obeyed only political and personal motives. Therefore it is a sterile and useless effort to study Argentine national or civil wars, which are only interesting from a historical point of view.

In the war with Brazil there were no strategic campaigns or tactical battles, but slow advances and courageous fights, which do not include all that is asked of professionals.

Battle of Obligado, Nov. 27, 1845.

The French and English Admirals Laine' and Inglefield whose nations were allied with the Unitarian Party against the tyrant Rozas, formed a mixed squadron to seize the Parana River as they had done with the Uruguay. About 4,000 men without military instruction defended the position and tried to impede a landing, but the British-French forces were victorious.

Paraguayan War.

The Paraguayan tyrant, Solano Lopez, declared war on Brazil in 1864 due to Brazil's intervention in Uruguay and also because Paraguay had boundary questions with Brazil. Lopez believed himself to be the Napoleon of America. On January 14, 1865 he asked permission of the Argentine Government for his troops to cross the province of Corrientes to attack Brazil from there. This permission was denied by a note dated February 9th, wherein Argentina declared herself neutral. Thereupon Paraguay declared war on Argentina on March 5, 1865 which was immediately followed by the invasion of Corrientes. Lopez' military superiority was unquestionable at that time. Great was the indignation in Buenos Aires when it was known that an aggression had taken place, and on May 1st, 1865 the triple alliance was signed by Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay. Art. 1° of this treaty read: "The Oriental Republic of Uruguay, His Majesty the Emperor of Brazil and the Argentine Republic are united in an offensive and defensive alliance in the war provoked by the Paraguayan Government".

The Argentine Army against Paraguay was composed of 32 battalions of 4 or 6 companies, 6 regiments of Cavalry of 6 squadrons each, 1 Paraguayan legion, 2 Brigades of Artillery with only 33 cannons, 1 battalion of sappers, etc.

Besides the 24,300 men engaged in the Paraguayan War, about 7,000 were in the service guarding the frontiers against the Indians and occupying the garrisons; as many more were up in arms against the National Government (1867) so that a population of 1,600,000 had 40,000 men in the service on or about 25% of the total.

In the Paraguayan Army in the first line members of the



55000: Military System and Policy.

National Guard were in the majority, most of them having been recruited in the Province of Buenos Aires. Little was obtained from the other provinces due to lack of good will, of national spirit, and because they were then backward, in a state of convulsion and sparsely populated.

The allied armies united in Corrientes in 1870 before crossing the Paraná and invading Paraguay and were as follows: Argentina 10,000 men commanded by General O'Leary; Brazil, 30,000 men commanded by General Osorio and Uruguay 3,000 men commanded by General Flores. The grand total was 43,000 men.

On June 20, 1870 a preliminary agreement was signed establishing peace and friendship between Paraguay and the Allies, which was confirmed by a definite treaty on February 5, 1871 and a boundary treaty signed on February 3rd. Lopez had capitulated on December 30, 1868 but the war still went on for 14 months after the death of the dictator. The combined armies were never in complete accord and a war which should have lasted one year went on for five.

Argentina's hard earned triumph in Paraguay was very costly, because the moral factors were not on her side, possibly because she was not interested in annihilating Paraguay for the advantage of others, or because "national unity" did not yet exist.

Besides there was no military organization, only a general such as Mitre could galvanize the men for a time.

Hence the work of Argentine liberation is thanks to the country itself only, and furthermore Argentina obtained independence for other countries, demonstrating a tradition not only of justice and probity but also of generosity in international politics. Argentina never attempted to seize strips of dominion---not even as the rights of victory. The need to establish the security of the country has never been converted into a desire to menace that of neighboring ones, to obtain supremacy, to exercise on or against them a material hegemony.

Regarding the foundation of the Argentine Army itself, military instruction started with the founding in 1810 of the School of Mathematics as a military academy. In 1864 President Mitre issued a decree sending 6 aspirants and midshipmen to France for instruction, they being sent first to the Escuela de Artes y Oficios, military section (Arts and Trades School). This military section of the Arts and Trades School was the origin of the present Military College.

On the termination of the war with Paraguay, President Sarmiento, who continued the great work initiated by President Mitre, had the law of 1869 passed which authorized the Executive Power to establish a Military College. It was organized by decree dated June 22, 1870, and the original personnel were nearly all foreigners.

Thanks to the Military College and the other schools founded later: Firing School, Engineers, Non-commissioned Officers, and Superior School of War the intellectual level of the Argentine Army has risen accordingly.

Regarding arms, after the Paraguayan War, in 1870, the Argentine Minister in Rio de Janeiro was ordered to purchase thereat 6,000 rifles, 4,000 carbines and 4,000 sabers.

Uniforms in Argentina were but an imitation of German and French ones until recently. But the idea of a national uniform has now been conceived.

It is only in the last 40 years that Argentina has "professional soldiers". Much has been said of the influence in the Argentine Army of the "German School." It is not to

Report #3215, August 29, 1923.

004

Lenox  
Lumber

004

Lenoir  
Lumber Co.

004

Lenoir  
Lumber Co.

004

Lenoir  
Lumber Co.

004

Lenoir  
Lumber Co.

[illegible][illegible]

004

Lenox  
Lumber

004

Lenoir  
Lumber Co.

6000: Military System and Policy

Influence of Geographic Location and Geographic Requirement.

Argentina's geographic location at the southern part of South America gives it a unique but not an ideal position. It extends from north to south about 3350 kilometers, and from east to west, from 1700 kilometers in the north to 250 kilometers in the south, the total surface being about 2,722,713 sq. kilometers.

Notwithstanding its vast size, a fifth of the states of the world, there are no economic, geographic or political reasons for maintaining any larger standing army than now existing. Besides, its population, less than 9,000,000 would prevent a much larger force if it had the means to maintain one.

As to its geographic position, its boundary with Chile of some 4200 kilometers extends along the peaks of the Andes, which are accessible with difficulty and therefore form a natural barrier. This limit was settled in 1903 by the arbiter, King Edward VII, but there are a few Argentines dissatisfied, as Chile was awarded such portions of Tierra del Fuego and Patagonia as to give her all of Magellan Straits with outlets on the Atlantic, while Argentina has none on the Pacific.

Argentina's Atlantic seaboard is about 2500 kilometers, but most of this is along the arid waste of Patagonia.

The Uruguay River forms about 1200 kilometers of boundary between Uruguay and Brazil. This, and along the River Plate are considered the most vulnerable sections of Argentina both from a geographic and economic view, and is where the bulk of troops are concentrated. There are no boundary or other questions pending with Brazil; but as to Uruguay, a friendly international commission is arranging the sovereignty of certain islands on the Uruguay River. Argentina has the greatest contempt and intolerance for Brazil, and as a result of the failure of the disarmament question at the V Pan-American Conference at Santiago, Chile, 1923, has caused both countries to increase their military and naval activities. Uruguay acts as a buffer state between these peoples.

About 1600 kilometers of boundary separates Argentina from Paraguay and Bolivia. There are boundary questions with both countries awakened after a long lapse of time, after apparently none seemed to exist, and are due to the probabilities of oil along the frontiers. This question at any time may cause Argentina to vary its military policy.

Regarding Argentina's internal policy, great tracts of land are uninhabited. About 60% of the population lives in the cities, and 20% in Buenos Aires. More than half of the country has a real density of less than one inhabitant per sq. km., and the whole of Patagonia from the Colorado River to the South (about 800,000 sq. kilometers-) has a population of only 100,000 inhabitants or a density of only 0.13.

This has led the Executive to take an acute interest in the raising of a gendarmeria of about 10,000 men to encourage and facilitate colonization, not only here but in other sparsely settled sections.

Report #3813, August 29, 1923.

CONFIDENTIAL

6000: Military System and Policy.

Attitude of nation towards preparedness for war.

Argentina is in favor of preparedness for war. It adopted compulsory service in 1872, but did not put it into effect till 1895, when war with Chile seemed likely. Since the World War, very little has been done to improve equipment, as its usual source of supply, Germany, has been cut off. At the present time, economic conditions and a reluctant and dilatory Congress have prevented appropriations to renew old and antiquated equipment, but the feeling towards Brazil has awakened enthusiasm, and has caused the President to send several messages to Congress to place the force, navy and military, on a better basis. The general impression of the Argentine is that the Army is as good as it can be under circumstances. While service is for one year for conscripts, for four or five months of each year, the army is reduced to some 5000 out of 27,000 for lack of money. Argentina is not militaristic, it has a more pacific outlook than her neighbors, and the other countries of South America.

The following are extracts of the Federal Constitution which influence the Nation's military policy:

Every armed force or body of persons who assumes the right of the people, and appeals in the name of the people, commit the crime of sedition.

In case of interior disturbance or of foreign attack, and which places in danger the exercise of the Constitution and of the authorities created by it, a state of siege is declared in the province or territory.

Congress may declare a state of siege at one or various points of the Republic in case of exterior attack, and for a limited time, in agreement with the Senate. When there is internal disorder, the Executive Power only has the faculty when Congress is in recess, because this is an attribute of Congress.

Treason against the Nation consists only in taking up arms against it, or in uniting with its enemies, lending them aid and support.

No province can declare or make war against another Province. Their quarrels ought to be submitted to the Supreme Court of Justice and decided by it. Their hostilities are in fact Civil War, qualified as sedition or disorder, which the Federal Government should put down and repress.

Report #3213, August 29, 1923.

6012: Military Establishment.

Composition.

The Argentine Army consists of:

1. The Army of the Line
2. The National Guard
3. The Territorial Guard

The Army of the Line consists of:

- a. The Permanent Army
- b. The Reserve

1. It consists of the corps of officers and "asimilados" of the Permanent Army, and the corps of officers and "asimilados" of the reserve of the Permanent Army.

2. The classes of the Permanent Army and those of its reserve.

3. The contingents of conscripts of the ten classes from 20 to 30 years of age.

4. The number of volunteer soldiers from 16 to 20 years of age in schools and from 17 to 30 years in units, being authorized to renew their contract till they are 50 years old. Also in time of war, volunteers can be received for its duration only.

5. Those incorporated by infractions of the conscript law.

6. The volunteer personnel for military bands.

The conscripts from 20 to 30 years of age mentioned in par. 3 above depend directly and exclusively on the Federal Government from the time of their enrollment to their passage to the National Guard when they arrive at 30 years of age.

The Executive determines each year the number of conscripts of the 20 year class to be called---when a drawing is made.

Reserve of the Army of the Line.

This consists of the nine following classes, and those of the youngest class (20 years of age) who are not incorporated in the Permanent Army. Service having been completed in the Permanent Army by the conscripts and volunteers, they go to constitute its reserve; one part is allotted to companies, squadrons and batteries of those units to bring them to a war footing, and the rest to the other mobilization units, which with the Permanent units constitute the total of the Army of the Line.

The citizens who form the reserve of the Permanent Army are obliged to incorporate themselves in their respective units in case of mobilization, or call of their class, ordered by the Executive. They are likewise obliged during their time in said reserve, to have two periods of exercises or maneuvers of a maximum duration of one month per period, when ordered by the Executive.

The reserves are obliged to assemble once a year at the target ranges for practice.

Besides the above periods of instruction the Executive may convoke for two periods of instruction of the cadre a maximum duration of 15 days each, those Lt. colonels, majors and company officers and non-commissioned officers, in those years in the regions in which there was no instruction for reserves.

Report #3215, August 29, 1923.

2010: Military Establishment

When called to service, citizens of the reserve will enjoy all the prerogatives, and will be submitted to all the obligations imposed on those of the Permanent Army by law and regulations, to wit:

1. In case of mobilization, from the day of being called for service to the day when discharged.
2. Besides mobilization, when they might be called for maneuvers exercise and reviews, from the day of presentation to the day of leaving and in uniform.

National Guard.

The National Guard consists of:

1. Officers of the National Guard
2. Non-commissioned officers
3. Citizens pertaining to the 10 classes from 30 years to 40 years.

The forces that constitute the National Guard, will have a tactical organization analogous to that of the Army of the Line, but each provincial government, in its own province, and the National Government in the Federal Capital and national territories will have charge of all that pertains to their instruction and organization, which might be given as the National Executive may prescribe.

Officers of the National Guard will be appointed by the Provincial Government in their respective provinces, and by the National Executive in the Federal Capital and national territories.

Officers and non-commissioned officers of the reserve of the Permanent Army will pass with their grades of rank to the National Guard, when by age they cease to belong to that reserve. They cannot be obliged to serve in the National Guard with a grade inferior to that which they had in the reserve, except when they may have lost it through military punishment, but if they refuse to serve in the National Guard with their grades, they will appear and serve in it simply as soldiers.

Retired officers of the Permanent Army who may be fit for service are authorized to accept employment in their own or higher grades in the National Guard, but this cannot give them the right to emoluments from the Nation other than the pension which they enjoy, nor except them from the obligations of those on the retired list, who form a part of the section of the reserve cadre.

Citizens who constitute the National Guard are obliged during the ten years that they form part of it to have 4 periods instruction of a maximum duration of 15 days each, as the Executive may prescribe.

For this purpose the National Government will lend all its assistance to the Provincial Governments.

The Provincial Governments will appoint an inspector general of militia in charge of the immediate direction of the instruction of the National Guard and the Territorial Guard. The Inspector will be obliged to report to the Minister of War, upon the result of enrollment, organization of units, the appointment of officers, the status and results of instruction, etc.

The National Executive will determine the manner of providing armament, clothing and food for the National Guard when called for periods of instruction.

Report 3313, August 29, 1923

3213: Military Establishment.

Territorial Guard.

The Territorial Guard consists of:

1. The officers of the territorial guard appointed by the provincial governments in their respective provinces, and by the National Executive in the Federal Capital and national territories.

2. Officers and non-commissioned officers, passing (with their grades of rank) from the National Guard which will be completed when insufficient by citizens who satisfy the conditions which the National Executive may determine for those of the Capital and National territories.

3. Citizens between 18 to 45 years of age.

The forces which constitute the Territorial Guard will have a technical organization analogous to that of the National Guard. The Territorial Guard will be only obliged to serve in case of National War.

Reserve Officers.

The recruiting, grades of rank and promotion of the officer corps of the reserve of the Permanent Army are the same as the Organic Laws of the Army.

N.C.O.'s of the Permanent Army.

The recruitment, grades of rank and promotion of the non-commissioned officers of the Army of the Line and its reserve, are prescribed by the Organic Laws of the Army.

Volunteers.

There will be in the Permanent Army, 5000 volunteer soldiers as a minimum, with and without bounty.

The age of first admission of volunteers is from 16 to 20 in the schools, and 17 to 30 in the Army, except orphans under beneficent care who can be received when they are 14.

The period of the volunteer contract of whatever class will be from 1 to 5 years, successive reenlistment of equal periods till completing 25 years of service, or attaining 50 years of age although the Executive may extend the age limit to 60.

In case of war, citizens who are not already attached to the service, can voluntarily join for the duration of the campaign.

Moreover the military personnel of the reserve, the National Guard and the Territorial Guard not mobilized can contract for active service in their grades with or without bounty.

The time served as a volunteer in the Permanent Army counts as obligatory service, and when discharged at whatever age, after one year of service, pass to the reserve of the Army of the Line, to the National Guard or the Territorial Guard according to his age.

After the annual drawing of the conscript class, no conscript can present himself as a volunteer while his obligation to serve for one year lasts.

Report #3213, August 29, 1933.

MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT.

Every Argentine citizen is obliged to take up arms in the defense of his country, and of the Constitution. Naturalized citizens are free to serve for ten years, counting from their naturalization.

Congress authorizes the concentration of the militia of all the provinces or part of them when the execution of the laws of the nation requires it, and to overcome insurrections, or rebel invasions. Congress also regulates the organization, armament and discipline of said militia, and the administration and government of that part which may be employed in the service of the nation, leaving to the provinces the appointment of officers, and the care of establishments in their respective militia the discipline prescribed by Congress.

The provinces cannot fit out war ships, or raise armies except in case of exterior invasion, or of a danger so imminent, that it cannot admit of delay, making a report afterwards to the Federal Government.

Liability to Military Service.

Every Argentine is obligated for military service and instruction in accordance with the law.

The obligation for service is the same for all and is for twenty-five (25) years. The youngest class is drawn integrally, each one being assigned his number. Those that have the highest numbers, serve in the Navy. Those who have the twelve thousand (12,000) following numbers are incorporated for one (1) year in the Permanent Army. This number can be increased if the appropriation permits it.

About 75,000 youths reach military age (20) each year.

No one can serve in the army in a permanent character, unless he is an Argentine citizen.

Individuals who before their incorporation or while they are being incorporated receive judicial punishment which reveals notorious immorality, will, at the order of the Executive serve in disciplinary units.

Students of the National faculties, of normal schools, of national institutions or of high professional instruction can apply to the Ministry of War, three (3) months before they are 19 years of age, to become candidates for reserve officers, and expressing the date on which they desire to be called for a service of three months, the year before or within two (2) years after the calling of his class.

After three months' service, they will take an examination. The successful candidates pass to the reserve as lieutenants or sublieutenants, according to their classification. The unsuccessful ones will be subject to conscription.

The citizens of the 20 year class (youngest) who are to serve for one year, and who demonstrate on the firing range their efficiency will serve only a fourth of their ordinary time.

Military service is by classes. These are composed of citizens born between January and December 31st of each year. Service of each class counts from the 1st of January of the year following the 20th birthday and lasts for 25 years, so that it ends the 31st of December of the year in which he becomes 45 years of age.

Citizens who leave the Army of the Line when they arrive at 30 years of age---pass to form part of the National Guard in their respective provinces or territories.

Citizens who leave the National Guard when they arrive at 40 years of age----pass to form part of the Territorial Guard, until the 31st of December following their 45th birthday.

Report 3213, August 29, 1923



6020: Active Army, reserves  
and organized militia.

The Permanent Army is the only active force of the Argentine Army and is the only force that receives any instruction. Its mission is that of a national police force. Its active strength is about 2600 officers and "asimilados" and 23,831 men.

The reserves of the Army of the Line are about 137,913 trained, and 361,944 untrained, and consist of men from 20 to 30. These reserves and the Permanent Army compose the Army of the Line, and constitute so to speak the 1st Line.

The National Guard consists of about 123,747 trained men, and 231,441 untrained from 30 to 40 years of age and is the 2nd Line.

The Territorial Guard consists of about 88,000 trained men and 100,000 untrained from 40 to 45 (till December 31 after birthday)

This guard can only be called in case of national war.

Inasmuch as only the men of the Permanent Army receive any instruction, and of these there are annually only about 20,000 passing to the reserve, it must be seen that the system does not give a highly trained army as a whole. The Permanent Army is well instructed, but naturally the personnel deteriorate after passing to the reserve, etc.

In the Argentine Army there is an excellent human element, but materiel is deficient, old and antiquated, and detracts much from the efficiency of national defense considering present day standards.

Report #3313, August 29, 1923.

6100: Organization - General

Ministry of War.

The Ministry of War consists of the Office of the Minister; Secretary's Office of the Ministry of War; the Inspector General of the Army; the General Staff; the Aeronautical Service of the Army; the Direction of Troops and Services of Communications; the 5 regional Military Commands; the General Directions: of Personnel, of War Arsenal, of Administration, of Sanitation, of Terrain and Gymnastics, and of Engineers; Military Geographic Institution; and the Judge Advocate General's Department.

Territorial Organization.

The territory of the Republic is divided into five (5) division areas, and the military regional division is made so as to give:

- 1) An equal partition of the national population in each region.
- 2) That it may coincide with the political division.
- 3) That each region may cover a part of the frontier of the bounding countries;
- 4) To the best use and service of the ways of communication.
- 5) That it facilitate mobilization and concentration
- 6) That the extension of the frontiers may be in relation to the forces of each region, and especially to the importance of the frontiers, and
- 7) An advantageous decentralization of the command and military administration.

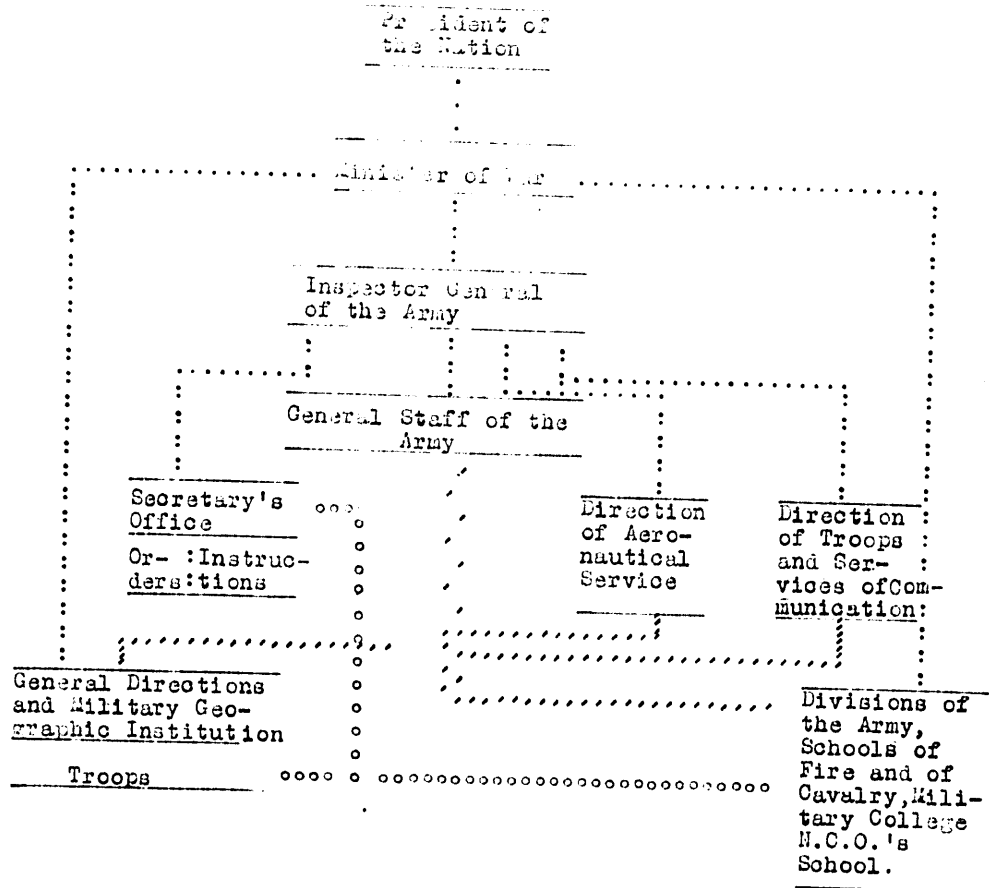
The five Regional Divisions are as follows:

- I. Region (Federal Capital) Buenos Aires.
- II. Region (South) consisting of the Province of Buenos Aires, and the Territories of the Pampa, Neuquen, Rio Negro, Chubut, Santa Cruz and Tierra del Fuego.
- III. Region (Littoral) consisting of the Provinces of Corrientes, Entre Rios and Santa Fé and the Territories of Chaco, Formosa and Misiones.
- IV. Region (Central) consisting of the Provinces of Cordoba, La Rioja, San Juan, San Luis and Mendoza.
- V. Region (North) consisting of the Provinces of Catamarca, Tucuman, Santiago del Estero, Salta and Jujuy and the Territory of Los Andes.

As far as is known there are five (5) division provided for on mobilization, the same number as in the active army.

SECRET

Sl10: Agencies of Central Government.



Direct dependency.

Dependency for purposes of instruction and inspection (via Secretary's Office)

Dependency for purposes of preparation for war and plans for instruction (via the General Staff of the Army.)

SECRET

Chic: Agencies of Central Government.

Relation between the Executive, Congress and Ministries.

Congress can require the Minister of War to come before it to make explanations and reports as deemed convenient.

Congress authorizes the Executive to declare war or make peace. Congress grants letters of marque and reprisals and establishes relations regarding prisoners.

Congress fixes the sea and land line forces in peace and war, and formulates laws and ordinances for their government.

The Executive alone appoints and removes Ministers of the Cabinet.

The Executive is the Commander-in-Chief of the land and sea forces.

The Executive provides for the employment of the military personnel, and with the consent of the Senate appoints the Colonels and general officers, but below the grade of colonel and on the field of battle he makes all appointments.

The Executive disposes of the land and sea forces, and decides on the organization and distribution according to necessities.

The Executive declares war and grants letters of marque and reprisal on the authorization and approval of Congress.

By the Constitution, the Federal Government can intervene in the provinces to guarantee the republican form of Government, or authorities to sustain them or to reestablish them if they have been deposed by sedition or by an invasion of another province.

In these cases the military is frequently called on to assist, and when they are placed at the orders of the National Interventor in the Provinces, and the Executive has not appointed a special commander, the officer who is directly commanding the troops in the province will discharge the duties with the title of "Commander of the Forces at the disposition of the National Interventor in the Province".

The Commander depends on the National Interventor in everything relative to his mission, and in other things which may be required by existing orders.

The President places at the disposal of the Interventor the necessary number of officers active and retired for the carrying out of his duties. These officers cannot be selected from the troops mentioned above.

None of the military personnel active or retired can receive for his administration duties emoluments other than those corresponding to his grade, except the allowances fixed by the National Intervention. Retired officers will receive active pay.

For general instructions for the military personnel on duty in National Intervention in Provinces, see Boletin Militar No.1663, 2nd Part. Nov. 7, 1922.

National Council.

On May 20, 1923 the President appointed a board to draw up a bill to present to Congress for regulating air traffic in Argentina. This board consists of the Director of the Aero-nautical Service of the Army; Director of the School of Naval Aerostation; Counsellor of National Territories; and Engineer of the General Direction of Railways. The Ministers of War, Marine, Interior and Public Works are directed to assist.

Major General Luis J. Dellepiane is assigned to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as Technical Advisor on international boundaries. The division of International Boundaries is under the direct control of General Dellepiane.

Report #3213, August 29, 1923.

1113: Agencies of Central Government.

Military Staff of the President.

The military staff of the President consists of one active Colonel or general officer of the Army, or Captain or Admiral of the Navy, as Chief of the staff; the assistant secretary major or Lieut. Colonel of the Army or Commander or Lt. Commander of the Navy; three aides, two of the Army and one of the Navy.

These members are in charge of receptions, personal orders, representation functions which the President may have, transportation, guard at Government House, etc.

Report #3213, August 30, 1933.

SECRET

5119: Agencies of Central Government.

Secretary's Office of the Ministry of War.

This office is divided into three(3) sections, and has as its duties:

General supervision of correspondence; preparation for signature of the chiefs of the different departments; preparation of presidential decrees, and resolutions by the Minister; keeps a record of the appropriation; promulgation of laws that affect the army and no department in particular; code; secret subjects; annual report; citations; army libraries; correspondence with other ministries; subjects related to Congress; information to the press; diplomatic ceremony; communications with Argentine and foreign legations; foreign and Argentine military attachés; foreign missions and passports for foreigners. It consists of 18 officers and "asimilados" and 20 men.

Report #3214, August 29, 1933.

Ministry of Central Government.

Inspector General of the Army.

1. By a Presidential Decree, Jan. 2, 1933, the office of the Inspector General of the Army was created. The officer holding this post has the grade of Major General 1, is appointed by the President and has the highest position in the Army after the Minister of War.

2. The Inspector General of the Army depends directly and immediately on the Minister of War whom he aids in the important direction, supervision and instruction of the Army, giving advice on all subjects relative to the preparation of same.

3. The functions of the Inspector General of the Army are exercised through the intermediary of a Secretary's Office in that which refers to orders, instructions, and inspection, and on the General Staff in that which refers to preparedness for war, both organs depending directly on the Inspector General.

4. The Direction of the Aeronautical Service of the Army and the Direction of Troops and Services of Communication depend directly on the Inspector General of the Army.

5. The Divisions(5) of the Army, the School of Fire, Cavalry School, Military College and School for Non-commissioned officers depend directly on the Inspector General of the Army in that which pertains to instruction, inspection and preparation for war and also for disciplinary measures issued by the Inspector General.

6. The General Directions (Grand Departments) depend on the Inspector of the Army in that relative to preparation for war. These subjects are forwarded through the General Staff of the Army.

For this purpose every proposition of an organic character that may relate to the preparation of the Army for war will be directed to the Minister of War through the Inspector General of the Army.

7. The Inspector General of the Army has the following duties and attributes:

- a To be Commander-in-Chief of the mobilized army.
- b To propose to the Minister of War the commanding generals and commanders of units in case of mobilization.
- c To inspect directly himself, or by chiefs whom he may designate, units, departments and institutions listed in 4 and 5 above, making a report on those subjects indicated in 5 above. The inspectors designated will always be when possible of higher grade than that of the corps or unit inspected.
- d To issue instructions for the training of units, to make clear and interpret the prescriptions of tactical regulations especially referring to combat, seeing that the greatest possible uniformity is had in the instruction of commands and troops.
- e To direct maneuvers when there is more than a division.
- f To submit to the Executive tactical regulations and exercises, and all that which relates to preparation for war, and to propose plans of instruction for military institutions that depend on it.
- g To collaborate in measures of an organic nature which relate to the preparedness of the Army.
- h To propose changes in the assignment of subaltern officers among the units and departments, etc. indicated

2113: Agencies of Central Government.

indicated in 4 and 5 above.

- i To solicit data and the necessary reports in all that pertains to the preparation and instruction of the Army, requesting the authorization of the Minister of War to inspect the Grand Departments relative to preparedness of the Army.
  - j To propose measures which may be submitted to the Minister of War to secure the cooperation of the Army and of the Navy, and especially the Territorial Service of both branches.
  - k To make report to the Minister of War of the instructions and urgent measures taken, and to make an annual report.
8. The disciplinary measures of the Inspector General of the Army are determined by the Regulations of Offenses and their punishments.
9. In case of absence of the Inspector General of the Army, the Chief of the General Staff of the Army will replace him, but only in routine matters.
10. The Secretary's Office of the Inspector General of the Army consists of the number of the necessary sections, and has a Colonel or Lieut. Colonel of the General Staff in charge, with the position of Chief of the General Staff of a Division of the Army.

Regulations for Functions of  
Inspector General of the Army.

1. The Inspector General of the Army will determine as he sees fit, the periods and circumstances in which the dependent departments shall transmit information and documentation which he may require of them, as likewise the dates on which the necessary inspections will be made.

2. He will determine, likewise, in the military year which the Minister of War may fix, the duration of the periods of troop instruction.

3. The Inspector General of the Army, in his capacity as directing authority concerning the preparation and instruction of the Army, will establish in accordance to instructions in force, and in the manner in which the different units depend on it, the standard of qualifications of Division Commanders of the Army, the Directors of the Grand Departments and Institutions besides he will formulate the inspection report for the commander of the unit that he inspects.

4. The disciplinary action of the Inspector General of the Army will be exercised in accordance with that given in the Reglamento de Faltas de Disciplina y sus Penas, in the units and in the manner in which they depend on it.

It will have immediate prosecution in cases of appeal in the units that are directly under it permanently, also for the others that are under it temporarily.

5. The Inspector General of the Army will have an Adjutant.

6. The Secretary's Office of the Inspector General of the Army will have the following organization and duties, with the personnel that may be necessary:

Report #3213, Aug.29,1923.



Chief of the Secretary's Office. He has charge of the distribution and control of the work of the office and its presentation to the Inspector General of the Army. He executes the work which the latter may order. He directs the personnel.

I. Section (Orders) All that pertains to the officer personnel and to subjects of recruiting. It has charge of the business transactions of the Secretary's Office.

II. Section A. (Various Subjects). It has charge of subjects relative to proposed decrees issued by the President, and standing orders, special studies that may be assigned to it. It has also charge of the examination of military regulations. Drawing up of the Annual Report.

II. Section B (Instruction). It has charge of drill regulations and of troop transportation. Basic principles and subjects of instruction. Minutiae in troop work and exercises.

Attached to the Secretary's Office there is a lawyer, who has charge of the despatch of subjects of a legal character which permanently or eventually come before the Inspector General of the Army, and will be the advisor on all questions of a legal nature in which he may be required.

7. To assure in the elaboration of projects of law and fundamental rules and regulations of the Army the greatest assortment of ideas and the most ample basis of experience, such labors will be carried out, when the Inspector General of the Army may consider fit, by boards of officers whose composition the Minister of War will appoint.

8. The presence of the Inspector General of the Army not being possible in all cases at troop inspections and at the work and exercises of special interest which they may have, he will send provided that he believes convenient, and under the conditions expressed in Presidential decree creating the office, representatives who will be chiefs of the Secretary's Office of the Inspection General of the Army or of the General Staff of the Army, who will have as a duty the following of the inspection or exercises taking place, making a concrete report to the Inspector General of the Army as required. In cases in which the latter especially decides, the mission of such representatives will be that of inspector with appropriate powers and for this purpose the instructions to the units to which the inspectors are sent will state clearly the mission.

9. The Secretary's Office of the Inspector General of the Army will be the organ through which will pass subjects relating to the constitution of the General and unit commands in case of mobilization, and in changes of assignment in time of peace informing the General Direction of Personnel so this department may make a record.

10. For the precise determination of the functions of the Secretary's Office of the Inspector General of the Army, and of the General Staff of the Army, it is established that: to the first belongs all referring to subjects of service, discipline, personnel: decrees and regulations; subjects, regulations and basic principles of instruction; tactical exercises of troops, to include an independent division; inspections; and for the General Staff of the Army the study of laws, organization, staff trips, maneuvers of more than a division; plans of instruction of

Chapter 1. General Principles of Central Government.

military institutions, regulations relating to named subjects; National Military History.

In the subjects of study by the General Staff, which are forwarded to the Minister of War, the Chief of Staff will present same to the Inspector General for signature; the same will be done on routine matter which is specified in the following paragraph when it treats of orders, instructions, observations upon work accomplished; the Chief of Staff in other cases alone will sign.

11. The departments depending on the Inspector General of the Army will communicate directly with him on subjects which pertain to him, except in those cases in which, by standing orders or by superior orders, may be established a fixed channel between the General Staff of the Army, the Division Commands, the Departments and the Institutions, in which case the respective chiefs will be in charge of relating subjects.

12. Directions of general interest for the Army which the Inspector General may give will be issued in the form of "disposiciones" in the "Boletín Militar", for which purpose they will be sent to the Secretary's Office of the Minister of War.

In other cases, communications will be directly sent to the corresponding authorities.

13. For the enlisted personnel of the Secretary's Office of the Inspector General of the Army, there will be assigned 1 sergeant, 1 corporal 1st class, 1 corporal and 25 privates.

14. The office of Administration attached to the Secretary's Office will have charge of payments of the Inspector General's Office and the Personnel, and the administration of funds.

15. In case of mobilization, the Secretary's Office of the Inspector General of the Army will be mobilized in accordance with that established in the corresponding scheme.

The Inspector General of the Army has charge of the study and drawing up of regulations, instructions, etc. which appear in the "Register of Military Regulations" it also has charge of their modifications, as well as the ordinances found in the Register of Military Laws and their Regulations.

Military Regulations comprise all regulations of an organic character and services, organization, arms, firing, description of armament, and in general, all regulations instruction, etc. whose observance may be in force.

These are classified as Public, Confidential, Secret.

Military Laws and their Regulations comprise all laws and regulations of a military character.

Report #3213, Aug. 29, 1923.

SECRET  
SECTION 1  
MILITARY TRAINING  
COVAL  
#118: Journal of Central Govern-  
ment

### General Staff of the Army.

The General Staff of the Army is essentially a technical organ, having as its mission the study and proposition to the Government the means toward developing the potential power of the Nation, the defense of its territory and the employment of its forces in all possible hypotheses of war.

It depends directly on the Inspector General of the Army, and during the absence of the latter, the Chief of Staff replaces him, handling routine matters only.

It is organized of the Secretary's Office and three (3) Divisions:

1st Division:  
Organization  
Communication  
Concentration

2nd Division:  
Operations, maneuvers, staff trips  
Information  
Air and the Military history

3rd Division:  
Regulations  
Instructions

In distinguishing the duties from those of the Inspector General of the Army, the General Staff of the Army, has charge of the study of laws, organization, staff trips, maneuvers of more than a division, plans of instruction in military institutions, regulations relating to named subjects, and railway transportation.

When the Inspector General so requests, an officer of the General Staff witnesses the inspection of troops.

For the General Staff, officers are selected after a three year's course in the Superior School of War, and are assigned for a period of probation to the General Staff. Yearly a board reports on the eligibility of officers for that corps.

Report #3213, August 29, 1923.

8143: Divisions.

A division is normally composed of:

Headquarters, staff and escort  
3 Infantry Brigades  
1 Cavalry Brigade  
1 Artillery Brigade  
1 Battalion of Engineers

Military district for recruiting  
Trains and units of Trains  
Firing ranges.

Report 13313, August 23, 1933.

2153: Substantive Matter.

General Direction of Construction.

The General Direction of Construction is under directly in the Ministry of War, and has for its duties, all that pertains to military constructions for troop service and defense of the country, their inspection and preservation. It consists of the Secretary's Office, Accountant's Office and of the following divisions:

Secretary's Office: It consists of mailing office, Chief Clerk's Office, Dict. Ry. and archives of the General Direction.

Its functions are the receiving, classification, distribution of matter pertaining to direction, procedure, preparation of papers and their signatures, motion of the personnel and any other subject or study which may be assigned to it. All personnel not assigned to the Division, will be under the Secretary's Office.

Accountant's Office: It has charge of everything that pertains to the receiving and the delivery of funds, keeping the required books.

I. Division-Construction. Has charge of everything relative to the study and construction of new barracks, military buildings and everything concerning military construction under Law 6492 and defense works depending on the Ministry of War.

II. Division, Repairs and Additions. Has charge of all that pertains to the study of repairs, modifications, preservations and addition of barracks and other existing military buildings.

Report 3213, August 22, 1923.

# 2180: Distribution of Troops

## 1st Division.

Commander: Major General Enrique Troquen.

	Approximate Strength	Station
Headquarters, Staff and Escort	50	Buenos Aires
1st Inf. Brig.	1000	Buenos Aires
1st Inf.	498	Buenos Aires
3rd Inf.	498	Buenos Aires
2nd Inf. Brig.	500	Buenos Aires
3rd Inf.	498	Buenos Aires
4th Inf.	498	Buenos Aires
1st Cav. Brig.	935	Liniers
1st Cav.	538	Liniers
8th Cav.	400	Liniers
1st Arty. Brig.	465	Liniers
1st F.A.	465	Liniers
1st Bn. Engrs.	320	Liniers
4 Military Districts	64	
1 Complementary District		
Services	27	
Train Section	15	
Sanitary Section	12	
Firing Ranges:	4	
Argentine Federal Range	2	Palermo
Italian Society Range	1	Villa Devoto
Swiss Society Range	1	Belgrano
Total	3875	

Report #3313, August 29, 1933.

# 2180: Distribution of Troops

## 2nd Division.

Commander: Brig. General Martinez Rodriguez

	<u>Approximate Strength</u>	<u>Station</u>
Headquarters, Staff and Escort	85	Campo de Mayo
3rd Inf. Brig.	985	Mercedes
5th Inf.	481	San Nicolas
6th Inf.	481	Mercedes
4th Inf. Brig.	984	Campo de Mayo
7th Inf.	481	La Plata
8th Inf.	480	Campo de Mayo
2nd Cav. Brig.	773	Campo de Mayo
2nd Cav.	485	Campo de Mayo
10th Cav.	305	Campo de Mayo
2nd Arty. Brig.	460	Campo de Mayo
2nd F.A.	457	Campo de Mayo
2nd Bn. Engrs.	313	Azul
16 Military Districts	138	
1 Complementary "		
Services	32	
Train Section	15	
Sanitary Section	17	
Target Range	<u>30</u>	
Total	3735	

Report #3213, Aug. 29, 1923.

CONFIDENTIAL

2189: Distribution of Troops.

3rd Division

Commander: Brig. General Alberto Varela.

	Approximate Number	Station
Headquarters, Staff and Escort	30	Paraná
5th Inf. Bri.	984	Corrientes
9th Inf.	481	Corrientes
10th Inf.	480	Gualeguaychu
6th Inf. Bri.	984	Peduro
11th Inf.	481	Rosario
13th Inf.	480	Santa Fé
3rd Cav. Bri.	704	Concordia
3rd Cav.	393	Gualeguay
5th Cav.	305	Concordia
8th Cav. Brig.	702	Paso de los Libres
9th Cav.	393	Paraná
11th Cav.	306	Paso de los Libres
Regt. Gendarmeria	255	Formosa
3rd Arty. Brig.	695	Paraná
3rd F.A.	458	Diamante
1 En. H.A.	234	Goya
3d En. Engrs.	313	Paraná
1 Dis. Co.	35	Formosa
15 Military Districts	132	
Services	28	
Train Section	15	
Sanitary Section	13	
Target Range	52	
	4894	

Report #3213, Aug. 29, 1923.



# 1100: Distribution of Troops

## 4th Division.

Commander: Major General Ricardo Solís

	Approximate Strength	Station
Headquarters, Staff and Escort	56	Cordoba
7th Inf. Brig.	984	Cordoba
13th Inf.	400	Cordoba
14th Inf.	401	El Cuanto
8th Inf. Brig.	987	Mendoza
15th Inf.	400	San Juan
16th Inf.	401	Mendoza
4th Cav. Brig.	700	V. Mercedes
4th Cav.	304	V. Mercedes
7th Cav.	305	Mendoza
4th Arty. Brig.	1043	Cordoba
4th F.A.	457	Cordoba
2nd Bn. H.A.	234	San Luis
1 Bn. Ltd. A.	349	Mendoza
4th Bn. Engrs.	313	Cordoba
12 Military Districts	99	
Services:	31	
Train Section	15	
Sanitary Section	16	
Target Range	22	
Total	4200	

Report #3213, Au .29, 1923.

SECRET

6187: Distribution of Troops

5th Division

Commander: Brig. General José L. Belloni	Approximate Strength	Station
Headquarters, Staff and Escort	80	Tucuman
9th Inf. Brig.	963	Santiago del Estero
17th Inf.	480	Catamarca
18th Inf.	483	Santiago del Estero
10th Inf. Brig.	963	Jujuy
19th Inf.	480	Tucuman
20th Inf.	483	Jujuy
5th Cav. Brig.	613	Salta
5th Cav.	305	Salta
12th Cav.	305	Campo de los Andes
5th Arty. Brig.	808	Salta
5th F.A.	457	Salta
2d En. Mtn. A.	348	Salta
5th En. Engrs.	312	Tucuman
12 Military Districts	96	
Services:	29	
Train Section	15	
Sanitary Section	14	
Target Range	15	
Total	3861	

Report #3213, Aug. 29, 1923.

CONFIDENTIAL

6300:Personnel-Tri-Mental.

The officers of the Prussian Army are of high character. They are all graduates of the Military College. Many of them have served in the German Army and a few in the Belgian and French armies and they are efficient. Those that are in line for promotion, no matter what duty they are on, are always ordered to a maneuver camp to receive at least part of their examination in the practical command of troops.

They have theoretical instruction for high command and General Staff duty at the Superior School of War. For the General Staff, officers are selected after a three years course in that institution, and are assigned for a period of probation to the General Staff. Yearly a board reports on the eligibility of officers for that corps.

The enlisted personnel, that is, the conscripts and volunteers are bright, intelligent and easy to teach. The men are hardy, robust and courageous. Many of the conscripts are illiterate on entrance into the service, but receive elementary instruction.

In 1920, of the 14,034 conscripts, 31.9% were illiterate, but with the elementary compulsory instruction in the Army 81.7% learned to read and write.

For special services, such as the Aeronautical Service, General Direction of Troops and Services of Communications, special educational knowledge is required.

Report #3213, August 29, 1923.

CONFIDENTIAL

6210: Commissioned Officers.

Promotion

The Argentine promotion laws are similar to those for the Medical Department of the United States Army, except that service for promotion is computed by years in grade, instead of total years of commissioned service.

Promotion is obtained, within the corresponding fraction of the roster of the grade by the most apt for the discharge of the duties of immediate higher grade, for the purpose of filling vacancies for the good of the service.

To be promoted officer must show aptitude in his own grade, and evidences for performing the duties of the higher one.

Promotion of officers is by rank, according to its roster to the grade of colonel inclusive, and for the other grades according to the respective roster.

A certain amount of duty with troops is necessary for each grade, but exceptions are made by the Executive.

Normally the annual revision of the roster in each grade of rank of officers will be made: by third parts in the grade of sublieutenant; by fourth parts in the grades of lieutenant, Brigadier General and Major General; by fifth parts in the grades of first lieutenant, Major and Lieut. Colonel; and sixth parts in the grades of Captain and Colonel.

The following table shows the grades; the authorized strength, years in which the roster should be revised; promotions, which are equal to the vacancies in the immediate superior grade, eliminations which include the losses for whatever reason, vacancies, which are the sum of the promotions and the eliminations in each grade, and whose number only can be exceeded when the eliminations by discharge (absolute or indefinite) death and retirement during the year, may be greater than the elimination provided for in the table by grade; in this case, the promotions established for the immediately superior grade will be increased by the surplus of the eliminations occurring in the higher grade, diminishing by the same number the eliminations by selection in the grade, except when it is impossible to fill the vacancies, in which case in order to cover them, the senior officers of the second fraction who are fit will be promoted.

Table appears on the following page.

Report #3313, August 29, 1923.

•

Report #3213, Aug. 29, 1933

6213: Commissioned Officers.

The grades of the commissioned personnel of the Argentine Army with their equivalents in the United States Army are as follows:

<u>Argentine Army</u>	<u>United States Army.</u>
Superior Officers	
Teniente General	Lt. General
General de Division	Major General
General de Brigada	Brig. General
Coronel	Colonel
Field Officers	
Teniente Coronel	Lieut. Colonel
Mayor	Major
Subaltern Officers	
Capitan	Captain
Teniente 1º	First lieut.
Teniente	Second Lieut.
Subteniente	-----

Officers are appointed from graduates of the Military College only.

The authorized commissioned personnel in the Argentine Army exclusive of "asimilados" (commissioned officer having rank and allowances, but does not exercise command) is as follows:

	Inf.	Cav.	Art.	Eng.	<u>Total</u>
Lieut. Generals	---	---	---	---	3 to 6
Maj. Generales	---	---	---	---	6 to 9
Brig. Generales	---	---	---	---	12
Colonels	24	12	12	6	54
Lt. Colonels	40	20	20	10	90
Majors	80	40	40	20	180
Captains	144	72	72	36	324
1st Lieuts.	140	70	70	35	315
Lieuts.	112	56	56	28	252
Sub.lieuts.	84	42	42	21	189
	624	312	312	156	1425

Report #3213, August 29, 1923.

3210: Commissioned Officers.

Eliminations in the grades of general will have to be produced by age limit, voluntary or administrative retirement, by incapacity and by discharge (absolute or indefinite) within the entire list of the grade; but in case that this may not occur during the year the necessary general or generals of greater age in the whole roster of the grade will be eliminated in order to obtain the annual ascribed vacancies, in which case the retirement will be with the "immediate" pay.

Fitness for promotion has to be demonstrated principally with relation to practical development in military preparedness, command of troops and troop leading. Fitness in order of importance is:

- 1: Moral aptitude as an aggregate of conditions shown by character, military spirit and conduct.
- 2: Intellectual fitness and efficiency for the grade.
- 3: Physical aptitude.

To determine what officer should be considered annually for promotion, the process is as follows:

- a) The total of the officers of the roster of each grade and arm to colonel inclusive, and the roster of each grade of generals, as it is found at that moment, divided by the number of years established for the rotation in the grade, determines the number of officers that correspond to each fraction of the roster which is being considered.

If the number of officers of a roster might not be exactly divisible by the number of years established for the rotation, the first or first fractions will have or will not have one officer more, according to whether the roster as it is is in excess or incomplete, but in no case should the order of seniority of officers be modified.

- b) In each roster the most senior officers who are found in it will constitute the first fraction.  
The officers who follow by order of seniority to complete the number of officers corresponding to each fraction, will constitute the second, and thus successively.
- c) Efficient officers will not be eliminated when they cannot be promoted for lack of vacancies, provided that they are junior to those promoted.  
Officers in these conditions will be placed outside the table and will be subject for promotion the following year with those that form the second fraction of the year, which will have to be taken into account in determining the first fraction of the following year.
- d) Officers not promoted can apply for military and civil employment of the national administration, and the years of such service is computed towards their maximum pension or to the age limit for obligatory retirement.

The following are considered as giving preference to promotion:

- a) For subalterns (sub-lieuts. and 1st lieuts.) results obtained in the command of troops; course at the Superior School of War; special services; and others that may be assigned or fall to him.

Report #3213, Aug. 29, 1923.

3213: Commissioned Officers.

- b) For captains: results obtained in the command of company, battery or squadron, with relation to its preparation, administration and leading the unit; General Staff work; courses in higher military schools of the country and abroad; in other schools of higher instruction or of professional specialties; in special and other commissions.
- c) For Majors and Lieut. colonels; aptitude for superior command deduced as result obtained in his grade in the service; administration; leading and command of troops. in the practice work of the General Staff, or in special commission and in important administration departments.
- d) For colonels, Brig. generals, major generals and Lt. generals; qualities and aptitude for high command, demonstrated; in service, administration, command of troops and the success in the discharge of other important duties and armies.
- e) Only those will reach the grade of general officer who may have evidenced to possess the necessary capacity to meet with success the difficulties and responsibilities of high command, and to be models and teachers of their subalterns.
- f) In case of equality of conditions, preference will be given to officers who may have distinguished themselves in General Staff work.

Officers who may be on "Passive Service" and those who may have charges against them or are detained by order of the civil authorities cannot be promoted.

When an officer in the above conditions is eligible for promotion, he will not be promoted till the termination of such status, and if such status results in acquittal, definite stop of proceedings, or a light disciplinary punishment, which in the judgment of the Executive does not constitute a motive for postponement, the officer will be promoted out of the list with date that he would have had in his normal promotion. Contrarily he will be eliminated.

Promotions of officers will be from grade to grade successively, and only when he has fulfilled the established conditions except: (a) When an officer distinguishes himself by an act of heroism; (b) in time of national war, first sergeants and sergeant majors may be promoted to sub-lieutenants directly, and for distinguished action with citation published in the order of the day any soldier may be promoted without considering length of service.

Indispensable Requirements for Promotion.

- a) To sublieutenant; to be 19 years of age and to have graduated from the Military College or similar foreign schools-----courses followed by authority of the National Government. In the last case it is necessary to have a complementary examination in the following subjects: Argentine history, civic instruction (patriotism) legislation, and Argentine military history.

Report #3213, August 29, 1923.



SS10: Commissioned Officers.

The Executive determines annually the number of cadets entering the Military College to complete the list of sub-lieutenants. Entrance is by competition, and will take into account personal antecedents of the candidates for their admission as cadets: in this act, a contract to serve 3 years in the Permanent Army is required.

The minimum or maximum ages for entrance into the Military College, will be such that in no case sub-lieutenants will graduate younger than 18 nor older than 25.

- b) For lieutenant, 3 (three) years as minimum time of service in the immediate lower grade, and 4 (four) years for all the other grades.

Besides for the promotion of a captain, to have pursued the first year's course at the Superior School of War.

For the purpose of the minimum time for promotion, the following time will not be computed: Passive Service; those mentioned in paragraph 2, 3 and 4 of the "Waiting List".

The list of officers for promotion is prepared annually by a board meeting 45 days after the annual instruction. It is composed of a general officer appointed by the President, the Division Commanders and the General Director of Personnel.

In time of war, officers are promoted, but it is not necessary to have the minimum service in grade; officers can be appointed from 1st sergeant up, but grades cannot be jumped; promotions are also made for distinguished service and gallantry. ~~Medical to be eligible for promotion, besides the minimum time~~ <sup>officers</sup> necessary as established by law for each grade, the following are in addition established for each grade:

- a) For unit and Regimental Surgeons, to have had service in troop units or departments for a time equal to half of the same necessary for promotion in his grade.
- b) For Brigade surgeons, to have held for at least a year, posts which imply direction or command, such as: second chief of Divisional Sanitary Service, the Secretary's office of the General Direction of Sanitation, and the Direction of Divisional Hospitals.
- c) For Division Surgeons, it is required that for one year as a minimum they shall have held the post as chief of Divisional Sanitary Service, or Director of the Central Military Hospital.
- d) For surgeons of the Army, it is required that for one year as a minimum, they have held the post of Chief of the Divisional Sanitary Service.

Personal Efficiency Reports and Records.

The personal efficiency report and records consist of birth or baptismal certificate; entrance into service; brief description of all his service and military life; with statement of status, active service, commission, campaigns, leaves, punishments and other antecedents, as well as the estimation of his services by his commanding officer and those things which can be utilized in making a just judgment of his services, death, etc.

Records of reserve officers of the Permanent Army, National and Territorial Guard are similarly kept.

The qualification report is made annually by the officer's immediate commanding officer after the termination of the period of annual instruction. It will cover all conditions of the

## 3210: Commissioned Officers.

officer for promotion, employment in the Army, and will be founded on facts.

It will cover age, name of parents, education before and after entering the service, his military career, assignments, campaigns; wounds, mutilation, special knowledge and aptitude, sickness, leaves of absence, punishment, time of service in grade, when he should be promoted, whether or not he is fit for the higher grade all to be founded on facts.

### MILITARY STATUS.

The commissioned personnel of the permanent cadre can occupy one of the two following situations: active or retired.

#### Active Service.

Active service is the situation of the personnel who discharges or can discharge all the duties inherent to his grade. It is divided into effective service, "waiting list", and passive.

On active service are:

- a) Warriors of Independence of Brazil, and of Paraguay. The Expeditionaries to the Desert enjoy the pay.
- b) The personnel that is serving in the Permanent Army and its dependancies, or on special service commissions.
- c) Those that cannot serve as above by reason of having been assigned to other duty by the Executive for national purposes, or for national representation abroad.

#### "Waiting List" Service.

1. Officers unassigned or who remain at the disposal of the President for assignment.
2. Officers on leave by reason of sickness for more than two months and less than 6, except when it is in line of duty, in which case they will continue on active service until cured or relieved.
3. Officers on leave for personal reasons for more than 2 months and less than 6.
4. Officers who are discharging national duties for which they have been elected.

#### Passive Service.

1. Officers who have permission to perform duties outside of the Army, with the exception of those mentioned under Active Service.
2. Officers not on active service by reason of sickness or leave, absence for more than 6 months, except as stated under "Waiting List".
3. Officers placed in close confinement.
4. Officers sentenced to punishment which does not carry loss of rank.
5. Officers punished with suspension of duty or command for more than a month.

### Retirement.

The status of retirement applies to those officers who pass to the retired list in compliance with law. Retirement is definite and the officer can only return to Active Service in case of mobilization of the Army and while it lasts, in accordance with the status which the retired officers occupied in the Reserve, National Guard, or Territorial Guard.

Report #3213, August 29, 1933.

COMMISSIONED OFFICERS.

Retirement produces the following effects:

1. Stops his promotion and creates a vacancy on the promotion list.
2. Does not permit him to command troops, except in case of mobilization or incorporation for instruction, and only as a reservist of the National Guard or of the Territorial Guard.
3. Can be incorporated in the reserve personnel until he reaches retirement age, established for those on the active list, without prejudice to the duties which he may be performing in any of the Grand Departments.
4. The obligation to serve in the permanent cadre ceases, except in cases mentioned in par. 2 above.
5. Is not subject to military regulation, except he may wear the uniform. But he is subject to the law and regulations of military justice.

Retirement is obligatory as follows:

Lieut. General.....65	Lieut. Colonel.....54
Major General.....63	Major.....50
Brigadier General.....60	Captain.....46
Colonel.....57	1st. Lieut.....43
	Lieutenant.....40
	Sub-lieut.....40

General officers to the age of 70, and the other officers for five years after they have passed to the retired list, form a part of the reserve cadre.

Voluntary Retirement.

Separation from the permanent army is the right of all the military personnel of all grades when they are not bound to the service by voluntary contracts in schools, troop units, military establishments or obligations defined in recruiting. This separation takes the term "discharge" (baja) when he is separated before the right of pension, and "retirement" after this right exists.

For all the personnel officers and file, the right of retirement pension begins after 15 years service; but by the liquidation of the pension, are added to these years field service or double service classified as field service. The approval of discharge or retirement is obligatory except in time of war, or in a state of siege.

Administration Retirement.

Officers are compulsorily retired whatever may be their age, or years of service when they are considered for promotion and not promoted.

Retirement for disability is granted or is ordered to the military personnel of any grade, whatever may be their service or age, whether by repeated or long sickness, or are invalids, and might be declared unfit for active service, after a medical examination. Officers and men retired or dishonored (de baja) before 45 years of age, form part, with their grade, of the reserves of the Army.

Reserve

A reserve officer of the Army of the Line occupies one of the following positions:

- a) Not in the service
- b) In service temporarily.

Report #3813, August 28, 1923

2213: Commissioned Officers.

Normally an officer is not in the service but is subject to discipline by the law.

When he is temporarily in the service or mobilized, he is subject to all laws and regulations of those in the Permanent Army.

Reserve officers are not assigned, but their positions are determined so that they will know their assignment in case of mobilization.

For the reserves of the National Guard and the Territorial Guard the same requirements apply.

Cadre of the Reserve of the Permanent Army.

Officers at their request leaving the Permanent Army, volunteers and conscripts discharged from same, pass with their grade to form part of the reserve of the Permanent Army, of the National Guard, of the Territorial Guard, according to their age, and can be promoted at the time of their discharge, provided there are vacancies.

Those of 20 years of age, who at the end of the first six months of obligatory instruction, desire to be aspirants of the corps of reserve officers, and combine satisfactory moral and intellectual conditions, will follow a course of 90 days. Those who qualify will be appointed sub-lieutenants.

To be promoted, reserved officers will have to have at least the minimum term of service as required by officers of the Permanent Army, to have served, subsequently to their appointment in each grade, attached to a unit, at least two periods of instruction.

Reserve officers of the Army of the Line, who by their age pass to the National Guard, can on request continue to form part of the reserve until they are 45.

Report #3213, August 29, 1923.